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WEEKEND EDITION
JANUARY 4-5, 2020

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Don Campbell / HP staff

Coloma Public Library Director Mary Harrison checks in books Friday afternoon at the Coloma Public Library. Harrison supports the idea of not charging people for overdue library books, but says their two-week grace period, then 5 cents a day fine after that, is one of the smallest fines in the area.

Fine-free frenzy

Support grows locally to eliminate fines for overdue library materials

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

As the saying goes, just because you've always done something a certain way, doesn't mean it makes sense to keep doing it.

"Sometimes you have to step back and analyze what you've been doing and ask, 'Is this a good idea?'" said Dan Hutchins, director of the Van Buren District Library (VBDL).

On Nov. 1, the library district, which has branches in Bangor, Bloomingdale, Covert, Decatur, Gobles, Lawrence and Mattawan, went to a fine-free system.

"I've been working in this business for 30 years," Hutchins said. "It seemed heretical until I was challenged on the idea, did some research and found that times have changed."

Buchanan is another area library that went fine-free in October of last year.

Some other area library directors are fond of the idea of going fine-free, while others, like the Maud Preston Palenske Memorial Library in St. Joseph, just increased the amount charged for fines on the first of the year.

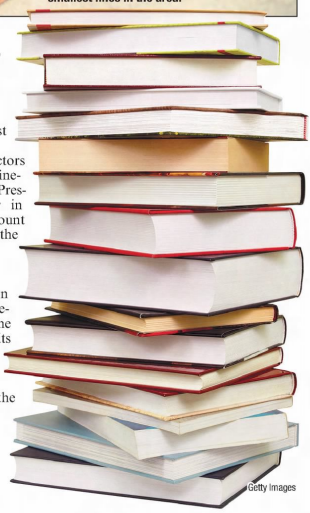
Going fine-free

Hutchins said the discussion to eliminate fines for overdue materials started in early spring after the Kent District Library announced its decision to get rid of fines.

"Honestly, when I first heard it, I wasn't crazy about it," he said. "The more I thought about it, the more I found it appealing and it made sense."

After asking other librarians across the state who were already

See **LIBRARY FINES**, page A5



Getty Images

BENTON HARBOR

Trash wars continue

City keeps wary eye on murky situation

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — The future of Wecycle Industrial Sanitation in Benton Harbor is in question, as the three people who claim ownership battle for control of the company, while the owner of a previous company that picked up the city's trash is considering selling the property.

In a Thursday letter, Wecycle owners and siblings Virginia Huddleston and Jewell Allen notified the city that the third owner, Robert Edwards, no longer has permission to do business on behalf of the company or to pick up the company's checks from the city.

When shown a copy of the letter Friday, Edwards said he had never seen it and didn't know what it was about.

"I don't know anything," he said. "I'm in the dark. I'm just trying to do my job. That's all."

Meanwhile, Willie "Curly" Williams, who owns Industrial Sanitation, said he put up "for sale" signs last week on the property at 157 Hinkley St. and two other properties that make up his company.

Williams provided garbage service to the city for 18 years until former Emergency Manager Joseph Harris awarded the contract to Reliable Disposal in October 2010. Wecycle is supposed to be buying the company from him. But at the age of 82, Williams said he can't wait any longer.

Williams said he will decide later this month if he is going to list the three properties with a real estate agent. He said he's asking for $150,000 for the main property on Hinkley Street and $51,000 for the smaller building next to

See **TRASH**, page A5

Trump stirs Mideast tensions despite talk of 'endless wars'

By AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

Evan Vucci / AP

President Donald Trump delivers remarks on Iran on Friday at his Mar-a-Lago property in Palm Beach, Fla.

WASHINGTON — With a single drone strike, President Donald Trump did more than just take out an avowed enemy of the United States. He may have have also upended a central element of his foreign policy.

The Friday strike that killed the most prominent Iranian general may have ended any chance that he would get the United States out of the "endless wars" in the Middle East that he has railed against since taking office.

The killing of Gen. Qassem Soleimani in Baghdad has the world bracing for a possible retaliation, with many fearing it could lead to a wider conflict.

"It is probably the most profound escalation that the United States could have taken," said Ned Price, who served on the National Security Council under President Barack Obama.

Trump has been on a confrontational path with Iran since even before he took office, when he pledged to end the Iran nuclear deal signed by Obama. He insisted he doesn't want war and the killing of Soleimani wasn't meant to provoke the Islamic Republic.

"We took action last night to stop a war," Trump sad. "We did not take action to start a war."

Nonetheless, the targeting of Soleimani, the head of Iran's elite Quds Force, was arguably the most provocative military action in the Middle East since President George W. Bush launched the 2003 Iraq war to topple Saddam Hussein.

Inside

■ What might come next after the killing of Iran's top general?
■ U.S. long watched Soleimani, but feared risks of a strike
■ Killing triggers global alarm
PAGE A4

The killing of Soleimani, regarded as the second most powerful official in Iran, came as Trump has sought to apply increased pressure on Iran through economic sanctions to abandon its nuclear weapons program, while Iran has countered with provocative attacks on U.S. military and oil facilities in region.

By taking out Soleimani, Trump signaled to Iran that his patience has worn thin over the long, simmering conflagration.

The shadowy general who was in command of Iran's proxy forces was responsible, according to the Pentagon, for the deaths of hundreds of American troops in Iraq during the height of the war there. White House officials said Trump decided to take action because Soleimani was plotting unspecified future attacks targeting Americans as tensions between the U.S. and Iran have reached a boil.

Trump said Friday he wasn't interested in further escalating the conflict, but warned the regime that his military advisers have already drawn up plans to retaliate should Iran attack.

"If Americans anywhere are threatened, we have all of those targets already fully identified and I am ready and prepared to take whatever action is necessary, and that in particular refers to Iran," Trump said.

Trump's aggressive approach with Iran is remarkable considering his oft-repeated desire to avoid expensive military entanglements. His aversion to long-term military presence has led to him butting heads with his top advisers as he has sought to end the U.S. military presence in Afghanistan and Syria.

Yet, for much of his nearly three years in office, Trump has bufeted between demonstrating restraint and sending warning flares to Iran that the U.S. is prepared for military confrontation.

See **MIDEAST**, page A5

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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Weather
High Today 35 | Low Tonight 28

6 50645 49086 7

Lawsuit: Pentagon withholding info from veterans' advocates

By BEN FINLEY
Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — A veterans group said the Pentagon has stopped releasing information that helps former service members to contest less-than-honorable discharges from the military.

The Defense Department has been breaking the law since April, according to a lawsuit filed Thursday in federal court in Virginia by the National Veterans Legal Services Program.

The group says it lacks access to decisions made by military review boards. The boards grant or deny a veteran's request to upgrade a less-than-honorable discharge. Veterans' lawyers study those decisions in hopes of building successful arguments for their clients.

The lawsuit comes at a time of growing recognition that a less-than-honorable discharge can stem from behaviors brought on by post-traumatic stress disorder or traumatic brain injuries. Liberal consideration is supposed to be given to veterans with combat-related mental health conditions and to those who were sexually assaulted while in the military.

Lawyers and veterans' advocates "often look" at the past decisions of military review boards, said Bart Stichman, executive director of the organization that filed the lawsuit.

"These decisions are redacted to protect privacy," he added. "You don't see the name of the veteran who has PTSD or other personal information."

Lisa Lawrence, a spokeswoman for the Defense Department, said in an email that the military is "reviewing the complaint and will consult with the Department of Justice on an appropriate response to this lawsuit."

Dana Montalto, a clinical instructor at Harvard Law School's Veterans Legal Clinic, backed up the lawsuit's claim that discharge decisions have not been available.

She said there are thousands of decisions going back at least 15 years. She said the lack of information hampers veterans' efforts to change their discharge statuses and to get more help.

Veterans can lose some or all of the benefits that are available depending on the level of their discharge status.

"It would shock many people to learn that veterans are waiting years to get a decision from a review board, during which time they're often shut out from receiving critical healthcare and support services that they desperately need," she said.

Montalto said military review boards have made significant efforts to account for mental health conditions. And requests that would not have been granted a decade ago are now being approved, she said.

But she said success rates are still too low and that more needs to be done.

"It may be surprising to know that post-9/11 vets have the highest rate of receiving less-than-honorable discharges than any era of veterans," she said. "This generation is no less honorable and has notably volunteered."

In brief

1 fatally stabbed in attack in Austin, Texas

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — A man stabbed two people, one fatally, inside a restaurant during a violent string of attacks Friday at a shopping plaza in Texas' capital city that began with an assault at a coffee shop and ended with the suspect leaping off a roof, police said.

The attacks on a busy downtown avenue of restaurants and apartments just south of the Texas Capitol terrified customers stopping for their morning coffee on the way to work. It was the city of Austin's first homicide of 2020.

Austin police Sgt. David Daniels said investigators don't know what provoked the suspect from striking a person inside a coffee shop before fleeing and stabbing two people inside Freebirds World Burrito a few doors down. The man, who was not identified, jumped off the roof of the restaurant but survived.

Man claims he skinned dogs to make coat

PRESTONSBURG, Ky. (AP) — A Kentucky man who claimed to have skinned four of his neighbors' dogs to make a "doggy coat" has been charged with animal torture.

Jonathan D. Watkins, 38, was arrested in the Floyd County community of David on Dec. 23 after a neighbor called authorities, news outlets reported.

The neighbor told police that Watkins came to his home to ask for a cigarette and was covered in blood. The neighbor said when asked, Watkins said he had been skinning dogs, according to an arrest citation.

During a Dec. 27 hearing, Floyd District Court Judge Jimmy R. Marcum appointed a public defender for Watkins and ordered him held without bond.

Lotteries

Friday drawings

Michigan

Poker Lotto
JD-QS-KS-8H-6H
Midday Daily 3
8-0-5
Midday Daily 4
5-6-1-4
Daily 3
8-7-8
Daily 4
3-4-1-5
Fantasy 5
01-05-13-19-39
Keno
03-12-16-18-21-22-26-27-35-37-38-39-41-42-48-49-51-57-64-70-71-77
Mega Millions jackpot
$60 million
Powerball jackpot
$237 million

Thursday drawings

Indiana

Cash 5
07-12-16-21-27
Cash4Life
07-30-39-44-48, Cash Ball: 4
Quick Draw Midday
01-03-11-12-14-18-21-35-37-38-39-53-60-63-68-70-71-75-77-79, BE: 12
Daily Three-Midday
8-4-9, SB: 8
Daily Three-Evening
6-3-8, SB: 9
Daily Four-Midday
7-4-1-7, SB: 8
Daily Four-Evening
7-2-8-2, SB: 9
Quick Draw Evening
04-06-09-12-33-37-45-47-48-49-50-51-52-57-60-61-69-71-77-79, BE: 12

Illinois

Lotto
17-21-23-33-36-50, Extra Shot: 13
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
14-15-32-39-42
Pick Three-Midday
3-2-8, Fireball: 8
Pick Three-Evening
3-0-8, Fireball: 0
Pick Four-Midday
9-6-0-7, Fireball: 1
Pick Four-Evening
3-5-5-6, Fireball: 9
Lucky Day Lotto
05-11-28-40-43

– *The Associated Press*

Charlie Riedel / AP

A gay pride rainbow flag flies along with the U.S. flag April 19 in front of the Asbury United Methodist Church in Prairie Village, Kan., United Methodist Church leaders are proposing creation of a separate division that would let more traditional denominations break away because of the disagreement with churches over the UMC's official stance on gay marriage.

Methodist leaders propose plan for amicable separation

By TRAVIS LOLLER
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — United Methodist Church leaders from around the world and across ideological divides unveiled a plan Friday for a new conservative denomination that would split from the rest of the church in an attempt to resolve a yearslong dispute over gay marriage and gay clergy.

Members of the 13-million-person denomination have been at odds for years over the issue, with members in the United States leading the call for full inclusion for LGBTQ people.

At a specially called meeting last February in St. Louis, delegates voted 438-384 for a proposal called the Traditional Plan, which affirmed bans on LGBTQ-inclusive practices. A majority of U.S.-based delegates opposed the plan, but they were outvoted by U.S. conservatives teamed with most of the delegates from Methodist strongholds in Africa and the Philippines.

Methodists in favor of allowing gay clergy and gay marriage vowed to continue fighting. Meanwhile the Wesleyan Covenant Association, representing traditional Methodist practice, had already been preparing for a possible separation.

The Rev. Keith Boyette, president of the Wesleyan Covenant Association and one of 16 people on the mediation team that developed and signed the separation proposal, said he is "very hopeful" the plan will be approved at the denomination's General Conference this year.

This is the first time that "respected leaders of groups from every constituency" have come together to form a plan, he said. "And this is the first time that bishops of the church have signed on to an agreement like this."

Boyette stressed that while the churches remaining in the United Methodist Church would keep the denomination's name, both the new church and the post-separation Methodist Church would be different from the current Methodist Church.

"This is not a leaving, but a restructuring of the United Methodist Church through separation," he said.

The proposal, called "A Protocol of Reconciliation & Grace Through Separation," envisions an amicable separation in which conservative churches forming a new denomination would retain their assets. The new denomination also would receive $25 million.

"The undersigned, in recognition of the regional contexts and divergent points of view within the global United Methodist Church, propose separation as a faithful step with the possibility of continued cooperation around matters of shared interest, enabling each of us to authentically live out our faith," the proposal states.

Iowa train derailment leaves mess

LECLAIRE, Iowa (AP) — A train derailment Friday morning sent more than a dozen rail cars and tankers off the tracks in the eastern Iowa city of LeClaire, shutting down a nearby highway and sending a hazardous materials team scrambling to the downtown district site.

The derailment happened a couple of hundred feet from the banks of the Mississippi River, along U.S. Highway 67, which runs parallel to the tracks. LeClaire police closed the highway in both directions shortly after the derailment and told the public to avoid the area.

The derailment involved a Canadian Pacific Railroad train, Scott County Emergency Management planner Brian Payne said. A hazmat team was sent to the scene, but no injuries were reported, he added.

LeClaire Assistant Fire Chief Kent Amerine told the Quad-City Times that a substance was leaking from one of the tankers at the scene. Payne's office later said a chemical leak was discovered.

"It did flow into a kind of natural dike formed when the tankers derailed, and the substance did not spread," Amerine said, adding that there's no additional threat to the environment or to people.

Officials have not said what chemical spilled.

Amerine also said no damage had been found to any buildings on either side of the tracks where the derailment occurred, but confirmed several vehicles in an adjacent parking lot were damaged.

Scott County Emergency Management Agency via AP

A train derailment Friday in downtown LeClaire, Iowa, sent at least a dozen rail cars and tankers off their tracks.

Facial recognition in schools raises concerns

By CAROLYN THOMPSON
Associated Press

LOCKPORT, N.Y. — An upstate New York school district has begun using facial recognition technology to look for threats, over the objection of civil rights advocates who say it compromises student privacy.

The Lockport Central School District said it activated the system on Thursday after meeting conditions set by state education officials, including that no students be programmed into the system's database.

Superintendent Michelle Bradley said on the district's website the Aegis system is capable of alerting staff to guns as well as individuals who pose a potential threat, including level 2 or 3 sex offenders, suspended staff members and people flagged by law enforcement or prohibited by court order.

The district originally planned to include certain students, citing the February 2018 attack in which expelled student Nikolas Cruz is charged with killing 17 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Those plans were scrapped amid privacy concerns raised by the New York State Education Department.

While facial recognition technology has made its way into airports, casinos, stores and stadiums, it is so far rare in public schools. The western New York district is believed to be the first in the state to incorporate the technology in the aftermath of deadly mass school shootings that have led administrators nationwide to adopt security measures ranging from bulletproof glass to armed guards.

But even without the inclusion of students on the Lockport schools' "hot list," the New York Civil Liberties Union said facial recognition technology infringes on students' rights just by scanning their faces in search of a match.

"Because every face that is detected in the frame will be analyzed and compared to entries on the Hot List, anyone who walks through areas captured by the surveillance cameras will be entered into the facial recognition system, including students," the NYCLU wrote to Interim Education Commissioner Shannon Tahoe this week, seeking a halt to its use.

Education department officials said they believe Lockport has satisfied their concerns about student privacy and data, but have recommended that the district consult with its lawyers to ensure individuals' civil rights are protected.

Bradley said the system does not collect or store any personally identifiable or other information until a match is made and confirmed by school staff, who would receive an alert from the system.

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Ex-Nissan chief made escape via charter flights

By SUZAN FRASER and YURI KAGEYAMA
Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey — Charter flights that spirited ex-Nissan chief Carlos Ghosn from Japan to Istanbul and from there to Beirut – an escape made possible with the help of an airline employee who falsified records. Security camera footage reportedly showing he simply walked out of his Tokyo home hours before fleeing the country.

GHOSN

Details emerged Friday of the bizarre path to freedom that allowed the ex-Nissan boss to jump $14 million bail, seemingly under the noses of Japanese authorities, and evade charges of financial misconduct that could carry a jail sentence of up to 15 years.

The improbable weekend escape has confounded and embarrassed Japanese authorities, even setting off wild speculation that Ghosn was carted off inside a musical instrument case from his home, which was under 24-hour surveillance.

But on Friday, Japanese public broadcaster NHK TV cited investigative sources as saying security footage showed he simply walked out of the house alone around noon on Sunday. Details also emerged about the route the fallen auto industry executive took to Lebanon, where he grew up and is considered something of a national hero.

Turkish airline company MNG Jet said that two of its planes were used illegally in Ghosn's escape, first flying him from Osaka, Japan, to Istanbul, and then on to Beirut, where he arrived Monday and has not been seen since.

It said a company employee had admitted to falsifying flight records so that Ghosn's name did not appear on them, adding that he acted "in his individual capacity" without MNG Jet's knowledge.

The company said it launched an investigation after learning from media reports that the planes were for Ghosn and not the officially declared passengers.

Democratic states appeal Obamacare ruling

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a move that could put the Obama-era health law squarely in the middle of the 2020 election, Democratic-led states Friday asked the Supreme Court for a fast-track review of a recent court ruling that declared part of the statute unconstitutional and cast a cloud over the rest.

A coalition of 20 states led by California Attorney General Xavier Becerra filed a petition seeking expedited review, joined by House Democrats and Washington, D.C. They hope to get a Supreme Court hearing and decision by this summer, before the November elections. For the court to agree to such a timetable would be unusual, but not unprecedented.

Defenders of the Affordable Care Act are arguing that the issues raised by the case are too important to let the litigation drag on for months or years in lower courts, and that the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans erred when it struck down the health law's now toothless requirement that Americans have health insurance.

"The lower courts' actions have created uncertainty about the future of the entire Affordable Care Act, and that uncertainty threatens adverse consequences for our nation's healthcare system, including for patients, doctors, insurers, and state and local governments," according to the states' filing.

There was no immediate reaction from the Trump administration. President Donald Trump had hailed the appeals court ruling, calling it "a win for all Americans." But many congressional Republicans want to avoid another election-year battle over the ACA, after their unsuccessful effort to repeal it helped flip the House back to the Democrats in 2018.

While finding the health law's individual mandate to be unconstitutional, the 5th Circuit made no decision on such popular provisions as protections for people with preexisting conditions, Medicaid expansion, and coverage for young adults up to age 26 on their parents' policies.

The 2-1 appeals court decision left the health law in effect for now. Open enrollment season for 2020 has been able to proceed without disruption.

The 5th Circuit sent the case back to a lower court judge who has already decided once to throw out the entire health care law. The appellate court asked Texas-based U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor to determine whether other parts of the law can be separated from the insurance requirement, and thus remain in place.

About 20 million people now have coverage through the ACA, including its subsidized private insurance and Medicaid expansion. But the 900-page law also made many changes to other programs, from Medicare, to community health centers, to fraud-fighting. Sorting out whether some provisions could remain while other go with the insurance mandate would be a colossal effort.

The 5th Circuit found that the requirement to carry insurance was rendered unconstitutional when Congress in 2017 eliminated the tax penalty for people going without coverage.

Five justices would have to agree for the Supreme Court to hear the appeal on an expedited schedule.

Rick Rycroft / AP

A firefighter covers his face from block smoke as he battles a fire near Bendalong, Australia, on Friday.

Australia bracing for worst as wind, warmth fan raging fires

By SHONAL GANGULY and STEVE McMORRAN
Associated Press

SYDNEY — Australia was bracing for one of the worst days in its wildfire crisis Saturday as strong winds and high temperatures were forecast to bring flames to more populated areas, including the suburbs of Sydney.

New South Wales Premier Gladys Berejiklian said her state is facing "another terrible day" and called on people in areas threatened by the fires to leave while they can.

"I'm pleased to say that we've never been as prepared as we are today for the onslaught we're likely to face," Berejiklian told reporters at a news conference Saturday morning. "All of the major road networks are still open but we can't guarantee that beyond the next few hours. So there are still windows for people to get out."

New South Wales Rural Fire Service Deputy Commissioner Rob Rogers warned the fires could move "frighteningly quick." Embers carried by the wind had the potential to spark new fires or enlarge existing blazes.

"We are unfortunately very likely to lose homes but we will be very happy and call it a success if no lives are lost," he said.

Rural Fire Service Commissioner Shane Fizsimmons said the 652,000-acre Green Wattle Creek fire in a national park west of Sydney had the potential to spread into Sydney's western suburbs.

"There is potential for the fire to break out, cross the (Warragamba) dam and move into the western suburbs of Sydney," he said.

He said crews have been doing "extraordinary work" by setting controlled fires and using aircraft and machinery to try to keep the flames away.

Fitzsimmons called on residents and tourists in the path of the fires to evacuate as soon as possible.

"Our message has been to make sure you leave yesterday," he said. "Leaving it until today is cutting it fine. The sooner you make that decision the better and I would say do it now. Don't leave it any longer because the window will shrink and will shrink very quickly."

More than 130 fires are burning in New South Wales and at least half of those are out of control. Temperatures in parts of the state are expected to soar to about 113 Fahrenheit amid strong winds and low humidity.

IN BRIEF

Police shoot man dead after deadly stabbings in Paris park

PARIS (AP) — A man armed with a knife rampaged through a Paris park attacking passers-by seemingly at random Friday, killing one person and injuring two others before police shot him dead, officials said.

The man's motives weren't immediately clear. A witness said he saw the attacker stab one man and that he appeared to select victims at random.

"We heard screams," said the witness, who gave only his surname, Dia. Police fired round after round in bringing him down, he added.

"We heard a first shot, someone shout 'Drop your weapon!'" he said. Then "there were several shots fired."

Officials said one victim died and two others were injured in the afternoon attack in Villejuif in the southern suburbs of Paris.

Police union official Yves Lefebvre said officers opened fire repeatedly because they feared the man was wearing an explosive belt and might blow himself up.

Police: Psychic said girl was possessed, scammed mom of $70K

SOMERSET, Mass. (AP) — A woman claiming to be a psychic stole more than $70,000 from a client by telling the woman her 10-year-old daughter was possessed by a demon and she needed the money to banish the spirit, police in Massachusetts said.

Tracy Milanovich, 37, of Somerset, is charged with obtaining property by trick, along with larceny and witness intimidation, Somerset police said in a statement Thursday.

Police started investigating Dec. 17 when the alleged victim reported that she was tricked by Milanovich into handing over large sums of cash along with household items, including towels and bedding, to battle the demon.

The allegations date to Nov. 15, when the woman first went to Milanovich's business, Tracy's Psychic Palm Reader, for a tarot card reading, police said in their report.

Milanovich was arrested Dec. 27. She was arraigned in Fall River District Court this week and released on personal recognizance.

A message seeking comment was left at her business.

Sierra skeleton ID'd as 'ghost of Manzanar'

By BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A skeleton found by hikers this fall near California's second-highest peak was identified Friday as a Japanese American artist who had left the Manzanar internment camp to paint in the mountains in the waning days of World War II.

The Inyo County sheriff used DNA to identify the remains of Giichi Matsumura, who succumbed to the elements during a freak summer snow storm during a hiking trip with other members of the camp. Matsumura had apparently stopped to paint a watercolor while the other men, a group of anglers, continued toward a lake to fish.

His body wasn't found for another month and the tragedy was overshadowed in the immediate days after his Aug. 2, 1945, disappearance when the U.S. dropped the first atomic bomb, hastening Japan's surrender in the war. Matsumura was one of more than 1,800 detainees who died in the 10 prison camps in the West, though it's one of the more unusual deaths.

Matsumura Family / National Park Service via AP

The gravesite of Giichi Matsumura is seen in 1945, following his burial after he died on Mount Williamson during his incarceration at an internment camp for people of Japanese ancestry in Manzanar, Calif., during World War II.

While his burial in the mountains was well known among members of the camp and his family, the story faded over time and the location of the gravesite in a remote boulder-strewn area 12,000 feet above sea level was lost to time.

Lori Matsumura, the granddaughter who provided the DNA sample, was surprised when Sgt. Nate Derr of the Inyo County sheriff's office contacted her to say they believed her grandfather's remains had been discovered. After all, he had been found nearly 75 years ago and buried.

"It was a bit of a rediscovery," she told The Associated Press. "We knew where he was approximately because we knew the story of what happened. So we knew he was there."

As a girl, she was haunted by a photo her grandmother showed her of the pile of stones where her grandfather was buried beneath a small marker in the remote mountains.

"Once in a great while, she would bring it out and say, 'Oh, this is all they could bring of your grandfather.'

G. MATSUMURA

And my aunt would be, 'No, don't show her that picture,'" Matsumura said. "It did scare me. I'm like, 'Oh, my God, that's my grandfather under there.'"

Her aunt, Kazue, told her that her grandfather was known as "the ghost of Manzanar."

"To this day, it seems like he's not passed away," Kazue, who died two years ago at 83, told the Manzanar National Historic Site. "It seems like he's gone someplace, because I didn't see his body."

It was by accident on Oct. 7 that Tyler Hofer and a friend stumbled upon the remains on their way to the top of Mount Williamson. The two were off course on a crude route through the jumble of granite boulders in a basin of lakes when Hofer looked down and saw what looked like a bone.

Earlier in the day, the men had discovered a pile of bones beneath Shepherd Pass, where a herd of migrating deer had plummeted to their death two years earlier on a steep, icy slope. At first, Hofer thought the bone was more animal remains, but upon closer inspection he realized it was a human skull.

Hofer and Brandon Follin moved the rocks and found an intact skeleton with a belt around its waist and leather shoes on the feet. The arms appeared to be crossed over the chest.

Rather than reopen an old wound in her family's past, the finding has awakened interest in learning more about their story and time in the camp and sharing it with nephews and nieces, Lori Matsumura said.

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What's next after killing of Iran general?

By JOSEPH KRAUSS
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — The unprecedented killing of Iran's top general in a U.S. airstrike in Iraq has sent shockwaves across the Middle East, with Iran and its allies vowing revenge amid fears of an all-out war.

But while they have vast arsenals and are within striking distance of U.S. troops deployed in Syria, Iraq and the Gulf, Iran may be wary of launching a retaliatory attack that could ignite a major conflict.

The targeted attack on Friday could give them pause by signaling that the mercurial President Donald Trump is willing to wield U.S. military power in dramatic and unforeseen ways.

The slain general, Qassem Soleimani, was a towering figure who mobilized heavily-armed militias across the region against the United States and its allies, extending Iran's influence to the Mediterranean.

His death was a major blow to Iran and led nearly everyone from Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on down to vow massive retaliation.

"There will be for sure a reaction from Iran's side and the axis of resistance, but the question is where, when and how," said Ibrahim Bayram, an analyst with Lebanon's daily An-Nahar. "I think the Iranians are precise and know how to direct the hit."

Here is a look at possible scenarios going forward:

America out of Iraq

The most immediate repercussions are likely to be felt in Iraq, where the airstrike – which also killed a top Iraqi militia commander – was seen as an assault on the country's sovereignty.

Iraq's parliament will meet for an emergency session Sunday.

The targeted killing is likely to strengthen Iran-backed forces and political factions in the face of anti-government protesters who oppose Tehran's influence. Iran's allies can now present themselves as upholding national sovereignty against foreign aggression.

Iraq's government, which has maintained an uneasy alliance with both Washington and Tehran, will come under mounting pressure to expel the 5,200 American troops who are in the country to help prevent a resurgence of the Islamic State group.

Restricting or expelling American troops on Iraqi soil is a likely immediate impact option, according to Renad Mansour, a research fellow at the London-based international affairs think tank Chatham House.

"I think it would be hard for any Iraqi government official making a claim to keep American troops after this," Mansour said. If America goes, he added, other diplomatic missions might follow.

That would place Iraq even more firmly in Iran's camp, alongside Syria and Lebanon, and fulfill a goal Soleimani had pursued since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

But it might not be enough.

Regional pressure points

Over the last decade, Soleimani had mobilized tens of thousands of heavily armed fighters in Syria and Iraq, who have battled alongside President Bashar Assad in Syria's civil war and fought the Islamic State group in both countries.

The United States has relatively small deployments of troops in both countries who could be targeted in revenge attacks. The latest escalation began last week when a rocket attack blamed on an Iran-backed Iraqi militia killed a U.S. contractor.

The U.S. responded with a wave of airstrikes that killed 25 militiamen in Iraq and Syria, and the militiamen then staged two days of violent protests at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. No one was hurt in the protests, but demonstrators breached the embassy compound.

Iran could also exact revenge through allies further afield, in Lebanon, Yemen or the Gaza Strip.

The Iran-backed Hezbollah militant group dominates Lebanon and has an arsenal of tens of thousands of rockets that can hit every part of Israel. But it is unlikely to risk an all-out war that would devastate Lebanon, which is already in the grip of a severe economic crisis and its own anti-government protests.

Cyberattacks and other possible tactics

Security experts said cyberattacks were likely to be part of Iran's retaliation. And while cautioning that the U.S. power grid is quite resilient, there are plenty of other opportunities for major disruption, they said.

Other potential targets include the financial sector, manufacturing, oil and gas plants and transit systems.

Iranian hackers carried out a series of disruptive attacks that knocked U.S. banks' websites offline prior to the Obama administration's 2015 nuclear deal.

"Our concern is essentially that things are going to go back to the way they were before the agreement," said John Hultquist, director of intelligence analysis at the cybersecurity firm FireEye. "There are opportunities for them to cause us real disruption."

Iran has also been doing a lot of probing of U.S. industrial systems in recent years – trying to gain access – but has limited its destructive attacks to targets in the Middle East such as the Saudi oil company, experts say.

Striking the Gulf

Rather than unleashing its proxies, Iran might respond on its own by targeting U.S. allies in the Gulf and their oil infrastructure. The U.S. blamed Iran for a sophisticated attack on Saudi Arabia's oil facilities in September that temporarily halved its oil production.

The U.S. also blamed Iran for the sabotage of oil tankers last year in the Strait of Hormuz, through which 20 percent of the world's oil passes. Iran denied those allegations, but acknowledged shooting down a U.S. surveillance drone in June.

Iran could also retaliate by abandoning the 2015 nuclear deal, which has gradually come unraveled since Trump withdrew from the agreement in May 2018 and restored crippling sanctions.

Sound and fury?

There's also the possibility, amid all the dire predictions, that Iran does nothing, at least for now.

"I think the Iranians are shocked now," said Yoel Guzansky, an expert on Iran at the Institute for National Strategic Studies, a Tel Aviv think tank.

Iran and its allies have lost several other senior commanders over the years. While they always vow revenge, they usually add that it will happen at a time and place of their choosing – and the crisis passes.

Then again, there's no real precedent for the killing of a figure like Soleimani.

Joost Hiltermann, the Middle East program director at the Crisis Group, an international think tank, says "we could see a war."

"They have put themselves in a corner. They will have to respond," he said.

Vahid Salemi / AP

Protesters burn a U.S. flag during a demonstration Friday over the U.S. airstrike in Iraq that killed Iranian Revolutionary Guard Gen. Qassem Soleimani in Tehran, Iran. Iran has vowed "harsh retaliation" for the airstrike.

U.S. long watched Soleimani, but feared risks of a strike

By ZEKE MILLER and JULIE PACE
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In 2007, U.S. commandos watched as a convoy carrying a powerful Iranian military leader made its way to northern Iraq.

It was a prime opportunity to take out Gen. Qassem Soleimani, who had been accused of aiding Shiite forces that killed thousands of American troops in Iraq. But ultimately, military leaders passed on a strike, deferring to deep concerns about the potential fallout of such a provocative attack.

"To avoid a firefight, and the contentious politics that would follow, I decided that we should monitor the caravan, not strike immediately," retired Gen. Stanley McChrystal wrote last year in Foreign Policy.

Fears about the repercussions and reverberations of a targeted killing of Soleimani persisted throughout the administrations of President George W. Bush, a Republican, and President Barack Obama, a Democrat, according to officials who served under both. Soleimani, they calculated, was just as dangerous dead and martyred as he was alive and plotting against Americans.

That approach came to an end this week when President Donald Trump authorized an airstrike against Soleimani. He was killed after his plane landed at the Baghdad airport.

Office of the Iranian Supreme Leader via AP

Revolutionary Guard Gen. Qassem Soleimani, center, attends a 2016 meeting with Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and Revolutionary Guard commanders in Tehran, Iran.

Trump heralded the attack on Twitter, declaring that Soleimani "should have been taken out many years ago!"

But some former administration officials argued that despite Soleimani's role in orchestrating deadly attacks on U.S. troops, Trump's decision may ultimately put Americans in the region at heightened risk.

"Previous presidents have had the opportunity to take measures like what we saw last night but have held back because of the risks entailed and the questions that were there about where this would all lead," said Derek Chollet, an assistant secretary of defense during the Obama administration. "Unfortunately, those questions are not any clearer today."

Indeed, Trump's strike against Soleimani, the head of Iran's elite Quds Force, thrusts Washington and Tehran into uncharted territory after months of rising tensions. It's unclear how or when Iran will respond, or whether that response will pull the U.S. deeper into a military conflict abroad.

Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Mark Milley said officials were well aware of the prospect of retaliation, but believed "the risk of inaction exceeded the risk of action." He cited "compelling, clear, unambiguous intelligence indicating that Soleimani was planning a significant campaign of violence against the U.S. in the coming days, weeks, months." He would not provide any specifics on the intelligence.

In the hours after Soleimani's death, the State Department urged American citizens to "immediately" leave Iraq and defense officials said the Pentagon was sending nearly 3,000 more troops to the region.

Previous administrations weighed concerns about Iranian retaliation as they monitored Soleimani, who kept a low profile and traveled only to countries like Iraq where the Quds Force already had strong security.

Rep. Elissa Slotkin, a Democrat from Michigan and former CIA analyst who tracked Soleimani's activities, said there was a "simple question" that prevented both the Bush and Obama administrations from targeting the Iranian leader.

"Was the strike worth the likely retaliation and the potential to pull us into a protracted conflict?" Slotkin said. "The two administrations I worked for both determined that the ultimate ends didn't justify the means."

'A more dangerous world': Killing triggers alarm

By JOHN LEICESTER
Associated Press

PARIS — Global powers warned Friday that the American airstrike responsible for killing Iran's top general made the world more dangerous and that escalation could set the entire Mideast aflame. Some U.S. allies suggested Iran shared in the blame by provoking the attack.

The deaths of Gen. Qassem Soleimani and several associates drew immediate cries for revenge from Tehran and a chorus of appeals from other countries seeking reduced tensions between Iran and the United States. As U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo called world capitals to defend the attack, diplomats tried to chart a way forward.

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei warned that a "harsh retaliation is waiting" for the U.S. He moved quickly to appoint Soleimani's deputy, Maj. Gen. Esmail Ghaani, as the new commander of the Revolutionary Guard's Quds Force, which undertakes the country's foreign campaigns, including in Syria and Yemen.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres urged leaders to "exercise maximum restraint," stressing in a statement that "the world cannot afford another war" in the Persian Gulf.

Vahid Salemi / AP

A boy carries a portrait of Iranian Revolutionary Guard Gen. Qassem Soleimani, who was killed in the U.S. airstrike in Iraq, prior to the Friday prayers in Tehran, Iran.

German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas echoed the U.N. chief saying, "A further escalation that sets the whole region on fire needs to be prevented." Maas also noted that the assault "followed a series of dangerous Iranian provocations."

In the United Arab Emirates, which sits across the Gulf from Iran, the minister of state for foreign affairs, Anwar Gargash, called in a tweet for rational engagement and a "calm approach, free of emotion." Qatar, which shares a massive underwater gas field with Iran, also called for restraint in a Foreign Ministry statement.

Saudi Arabia, Iran's top regional rival, added its own voice of caution against "all acts that may lead to aggravating the situation with unbearable consequences."

The White House sought to justify the killings with a tweet alleging that Soleimani "was actively developing plans to attack American diplomats and service members in Iraq and throughout the region."

"He should have been taken out many years ago!" U.S. President Donald Trump tweeted. But the president also told reporters: "We took action last night to stop a war. We did not take action to start a war."

Oil prices surged as investors fretted about Mideast stability. Social media flooded with alarm. Twitter users morbidly turned "WWIII" into the top trending term worldwide.

"We are waking up in a more dangerous world. Military escalation is always dangerous," France's deputy minister for foreign affairs, Amelie de Montchalin, told RTL radio.

Russia's Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Soleimani's killing "grossly violates international law and should be condemned."

He told Pompeo in a phone conversation late Friday that "the move by the U.S. is fraught with severe consequences for the peace of stability in the region and doesn't help resolve complicated problems in the Middle East," according to a ministry statement. Lavrov also urged Washington to "stop using unlawful methods of force" in trying to achieve its foreign policy goals and instead bring "any problems to the negotiating table."

Trump's election opponents characterized him as reckless. Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden said the president "tossed a stick of dynamite into a tinderbox."

LIBRARY FINES

From page A1

fine-free about their experiences, Hutchins received only positive responses back, so he took the proposition to the VBDL Board and members agreed to think about it.

Hutchins said one of the big reasons libraries are eliminating fines is because they aren't that much of a money maker.

"They usually only make up 0.5 to 1 percent of their budgets," he said. "For us it's about $8,000, which was pretty easy to find in our budget."

Not only did the new policy get rid of charging fines, it wiped out existing fines people owed. But he said people will still be charged for lost or damaged items.

"After 35 days being late, the item is lost," Hutchins said. "But if they pay that fine, then find the item, we'll refund the fine. We still need people to bring things back."

A small percentage

Lincoln Township Public Library Director Jessica Ishmael said overdue fines make up about 1-2 percent of the library's yearly budget.

"It's a pretty traditional system that's pretty much on par with other area libraries," she said. "That doesn't include fee cards and book replacement fees, but it's really not a lot."

The typical item at the Lincoln Township Public Library carries a 10-cents-a-day overdue fine, with a $5 maximum.

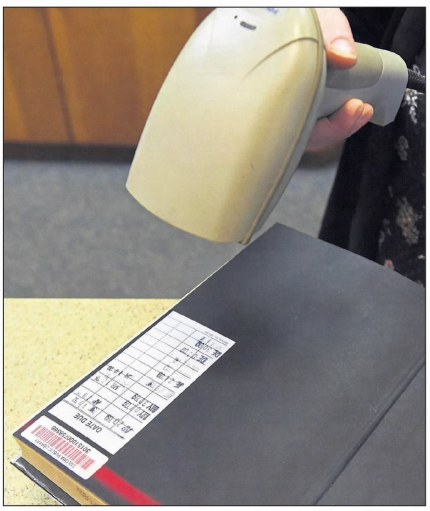
In comparison, St. Joseph's library just changed its policy to 20 cents a day, with a $10 maximum. But it eliminated fees for renting DVDs.

St. Joseph Public Library Director Stephanie Masin was unavailable to comment for this story.

Coloma Public Library Director Mary Harrison said going fine-free makes total sense for bigger library systems.

"I think that's great if it fits in their budgets. It's just enough that we can't quite do that yet," she said. "I'd be willing to consider it if we found another way to supplement our income. Fines make up about $5,000 a year for us. That's not a ton, but it's enough to buy some new books."

Harrison said Coloma's fine policy is "pretty tiny," with a two-week grace period, then a 5-cent a day fine after that.



Don Campbell / HP staff

Mary Harrison uses a scanner to check in books at the Coloma library. Fines for overdue library books may soon become a thing of the past. The Van Buren District Library went fine-free in November and the Buchanan District Library did the same in October. Several other local libraries are considering the idea.

"After 35 days being late, the item is lost. ... But if they pay that fine, then find the item, we'll refund the fine. We still need people to bring things back.

DAN HUTCHINS
Director of Van Buren District Library, explaining a policy that eliminates overdue fines but retains punishment for unreturned items

"We do hope it encourages people to return things," she said. "That's why it's that, but we are looking at updating that policy in the future."

Benton Harbor Public Library also carries a 5-cent-per-day late fine.

Ishmael, of Lincoln Township's library, said going fine-free is something she'd like to explore and have a conversation about with her board in the future.

"From the time we first heard of the larger more urban libraries doing it, it felt like a very groundbreaking thing, because it's such a traditional piece of library policy," she said. "It's exciting to see it take hold."

A history of fines

Library fines have been around since lending libraries were first established.

"Fines were implemented as a mechanism to bring back items on time so others can use it," Hutchins said. "But libraries are finding that going fine-free doesn't change anyone's behavior. If they were going to bring their book back on time, they're still bringing it back on time. And if they're bringing in their books late, they're still going to bring in their books late."

He said it's different than when say someone is fined for speeding and continues to drive.

"For some reason with library fines, people think it's a sin to have overdue books," Hutchins said. "It keeps people away because they feel bad, but it's just business to us. The evidence is showing it's a practice that it's time to end."

Ishmael said even though fines may seem insignificant to some, it's the perception of a barrier that fines create.

"It can take away from the feeling of feeling welcome at a library in some cases," she said. "And that's what brings (the library) the most value."

When the Buchanan District Library announced its intention to drop fines, it wrote on its website: "Libraries are about providing access, and eliminating late fines is one way to ensure equitable access for everyone in our community. Going fine free is a growing trend in American libraries, resulting in increased visits and circulation. And that's exactly what we want. We all benefit from a curious, engaged, and well-informed community."

A fine-less future

Coloma library director Harrison said Friday that in the last week she's heard of more and more libraries going fine-free.

"I've realized it's not just the big libraries doing this," she said. "I've not explored this with our board, but certainly the reasons to do it are a good thing: to improve services and keep up with the times. Libraries are always looking to modernize services. I'm relatively new here, so it's just one of those things I'll continue to research and pursue."

Hutchins said already the VBDL has heard positive feedback on the new policy and expects it to bring more people into the library.

"People who have not visited in quite some time, because of fines, will come back and new people will come in and see us because there are no penalties anymore," he said.

Hutchins said he's heard a few people say that think the fines should stay – as a teaching mechanism.

"It's not the libraries' job to teach responsibility, especially in children," he said. "They don't control their own schedule. A lot of our libraries are in rural areas and not walkable, so most need adults to drive them. It's not teaching children because they're dependent on parents for library visits."

Hutchins said the goal is simply to take away the negative stigma and increase library usage.

"That's why we're here," he said. "We want people to use us."

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TRASH

From page A1

it. He's asking $105,000 for property at 568 Madison Ave.

"I just put (the for sale signs) up there to see who would come and what they would offer," he said. "... I haven't made up my mind if I'm going to sell, yet."

City commissioners awarded Wecycle a three-year contract in 2017, which will expire in October. Bids to pick up the trash are due by 11 a.m. Tuesday in the city clerk's office at city hall.

City Commissioner Ron Singleton said the city needs to be ready to step in if Wecycle stops picking up trash like it did for a few days in November.

"Our concern it getting up the trash," he said. "We can't let the trash pile up."

In November, Edwards said Wecycle stopped picking up trash because the company's monthly check was given to Huddleston, who he had fired more than a year previously. He said that even though Huddleston got the money, she didn't pay any of the bills, including the employees or the landfill fees.

Huddleston said Friday that she was never fired, but stopped working in the Wecycle business office on her own. She said she never gave up ownership of the company.

Edwards started picking up trash, again, after city commissioners advanced November's payment to the company in his name.

The next payment of $39,353 to Wecycle is on the bill list for commissioners to approve on Monday.

Singleton said he's been researching how much money it would cost the city to pick up its own trash. He said he understands that the problem is an internal matter for Wecycle, but when the trash isn't picked up, it becomes a city commission problem.

"This leaves us in suspense, wondering if the company will be able to carry out the agreement in the contract," he said. "... We can't just sit around. We need to explore our options."

Singleton said he also wants to know if Wecycle took care of all of the problems that led city commissioners to give the company a 30-day notice on Nov. 18 to correct problems, under the threat of the contract being terminated early.

City Commissioner Duane Seats said he questions whether the notice given to the city Thursday is legitimate because it is not notarized or on letterhead. He said the situation has been investigated by the Berrien County Sheriff's Office and turned over to the Berrien County Prosecutor's Office for review.

"I pray that the prosecutor will intervene to do something to help the city of Benton Harbor on this matter," he said. "This is ridiculous. ... If they can't get along, they need to get gone."

Interim City Manager Ellis Mitchell and Mayor Marcus Muhammad were unavailable for comment on Friday.

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Louise Wrege / HP staff

Benton Harbor's garbage is still being picked up by Wecycle Industrial Sanitation in Benton Harbor, but no one knows for how long. Two of the three purported owners gave the city a letter Thursday stating that Robert Edwards is no longer allowed to pick up the company's check from the city.

MIDEAST

From page A1

In June, after Iran shot down a U.S. drone, Trump said he gave top Pentagon officials permission to carry out military strikes against Iran before changing his mind 10 minutes before the operation was to be carried out.

Trump said he had a change of heart after being told by a general that the strikes would cause up to 150 Iranian casualties.

In September, with French President Emmanuel Macron serving as a go-between, Trump reportedly made an unsuccessful attempt to persuade Iran President Hassan Rouhani to speak with him by phone from the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly.

The next month the Pentagon announced it was deploying 3,000 U.S. troops to protect Saudi Arabia.

Upton backs U.S. drone strike

U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, commented about the Iraq situation on Friday morning on Twitter. Here's what he said:

"For some time now, Iran has been poking the bear and had to expect that there would be a consequence. Qassem Soleimani was the ring leader responsible for the deaths of hundreds of U.S. military officials and was likely planning more. I look forward to learning more in briefings when I return to Washington from Michigan next week, but I support the President's reaction thus far in taking Soleimani out.

"When Teddy Roosevelt was President, he worked to establish respect for the United States and our strength around the world. The world once again witnessed that strength in taking out an evil man. When our people and our interests are attacked, the United States should swat back."

The October boost in forces came after a drone attack on a Saudi oilfield. Iranian-backed Houthi rebels claimed responsibility for the attack, and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo accused Iran of being behind "unprecedented attack on the world's energy supply."

The tit-for-tat between the U.S. and Iran rose to a whole new level in recent weeks.

Last week, after months of massive street protests in Baghdad by demonstrators urging both Iran and the U.S. to cease interfering in Iraqi affairs, the Iran-backed Kataib Hezbollah group fired a barrage of rockets at a military base in Kirkuk, killing a U.S. contractor and wounding several U.S. and Iraqi troops.

On Sunday, Trump struck back with airstrikes on Iran-affiliated militia bases in western Iraq and Syria.

Then on Tuesday pro-Iranian militia members marched on the U.S. embassy in Baghdad, leading to diplomats holing up in the sprawling compound as protesters burning the embassy's reception.

Still, before attending a New Years Eve party at his Mar-a-Lago resort, Trump told reporters that he didn't see war coming and that he wanted peace with Iran. The president, however, warned that if the U.S. were to go to war with Iran it "wouldn't last very long."

Less than 48 hours later, Trump ordered the strike that took out Soleimani.

"President Trump may be genuine in not wanting war with Iran," Price said. "At the same, it is fair to say that he doesn't seem to understand the implication that an action like this could foretell."

James Carafano, a national security analyst at the conservative Washington think tank Heritage Foundation, argues there's no disconnect between Trump's disdain for endless wars and his efforts to increase pressure on Iran.

"This is clearly not an escalation, this is clearly an act of self-defense," Carafano said. "The president has also never said we're walking away from the Middle East. What he says he wants is a sustainable security architecture in place which means we're going to protect our interest and we're going to expect others to do more to protect theirs."

Over the course of presidency, Trump's hawkishness on Iran has lacked coherence and has, in no small part, been informed by his desire to do away with the fragile peace brokered by Obama, said Abbas Kadhim, a Middle East analyst at the Atlantic Council in Washington.

Trump won the White House after pledging as a candidate to undo the Obama-administration brokered agreement to limit its uranium enrichment program in exchange for an easing of sanctions. He and other critics felt the deal gave too many economic benefits without doing enough to prevent Iran from eventually developing a nuclear weapon.

Trump followed through on his campaign vow in May 2018 by officially withdrawing from the treaty and reimposing crippling sanctions on Tehran.

"He exited from the deal because it was an Obama deal, and he did believe in his heart of hearts that he could come up with a better a deal," Kadhim said. "He thought Iran would now be facing the greatest dealmaker. But I think he miscalculated the stubbornness of the Iranians."

McConnell digs in on impeachment trial as standoff drags on

By DAVE GOLDINER
New York Daily News (TNS)

The impeachment standoff showed no signs of ending Friday as Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell shrugged off Democratic complaints about a potential Senate trial of President Donald Trump.

Returning to the Capitol Hill after the holidays, the powerful Senate leader accused House Democrats of "flinching" by refusing to send articles of impeachment to the upper chamber for a trial.

"They've done enough damage," McConnell, R-Ky., said on the Senate floor. "It's now the Senate's turn to render sober judgment as the framers envisioned."

McConnell said the Senate would start its session by dealing with "ordinary business" until and unless Democrats "muster the courage to stand behind their slapdash work product."

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., did not immediately respond to McConnell and aides said the two leaders have not spoken directly since before Christmas.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said there has been no progress on Democratic demands that any trial include documents and witnesses that Trump blocked from appearing during the House inquiry.

McConnell "hasn't given one good reason why there shouldn't be relevant witnesses or relevant documents," Schumer said minutes after the GOP leader spoke. "Instead of trying to find the truth, he is still using the same feeble talking points."

The House voted to impeach Trump for abusing his power in the Ukraine scandal and obstructing the congressional probe.

Pelosi has so far declined to forward the articles of impeachment, which are similar to an indictment in a criminal case, to the Senate for trial.

Democrats hope to use the delay as leverage to force McConnell to make concessions about the rules for a Senate trial, especially the need for witnesses such as fired National Security Adviser John Bolton and Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney.

Both sides admit those two and others had direct knowledge of Trump's plan to bully Ukraine into launching bogus investigations into Democratic front-runner Joe Biden and a discredited conspiracy theory that Ukraine interfered in the 2016 election, not Trump.

Do you remember?

25 years ago – 1995

The Benton Township Board plans to dissolve the township's Downtown Development Authority, claiming the authority has "fulfilled its mission."

The board yesterday heard the first reading of an ordinance dissolving the 4-year-old, nine-member authority. The board is expected to pass the ordinance at its Jan. 17 meeting.

35 years ago – 1985

A computer snafu that has delayed unemployment checks for up to six weeks and brought long lines into area state employment offices hasn't gotten any better. The situation was first made public by The Herald-Palladium in an article last Dec. 8. A month later, people are still waiting for checks because the Michigan Employment Security Commission is having problems with its three-month-old computer system, MESC spokesmen confirmed.

50 years ago – 1970

U.S. Senator Robert Griffin of Traverse City, the minority leader of the Republican party (or "whip") in the Senate, will speak to the Economic Club of Southwestern Michigan on Jan. 16 at the Hilton Inn, Benton Harbor. Griffin is the first Michigan senator in either party to win such a leadership post.

Most recently Griffin led a drive that led to the resignation of Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas who was nominated by then President Lyndon Johnson for position of chief justice. Griffin also wrote part of the National Student Loan program.

Today in history

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Saturday, Jan. 4, the fourth day of 2020. There are 362 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On Jan. 4, 1964, Pope Paul VI began a visit to the Holy Land, the first papal pilgrimage of its kind.

On this date:

In 1809, Louis Braille, inventor of the Braille raised-dot reading system for the blind, was born in Coupvray, France.

In 1896, Utah was admitted as the 45th state.

In 1904, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Gonzalez v. Williams, ruled that Puerto Ricans were not aliens and could enter the United States freely; however, the court stopped short of declaring them citizens. (Puerto Ricans received U.S. citizenship in March 1917.)

In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address, called for legislation to provide assistance for the jobless, elderly, impoverished children and the handicapped.

In 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson delivered his State of the Union address in which he outlined the goals of his "Great Society."

In 1974, President Richard Nixon refused to hand over tape recordings and documents subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Scattered Snow	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Scattered Snow	Scattered Snow
35°	28°	39° / 32°	40° / 31°	36° / 23°	30° / 22°

Local Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with a 50% chance of scattered snow, high of 35°, humidity of 75%. Northwest wind 8 to 15 mph. Snow accumulation of less than one inch possible. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 28°. West southwest wind 14 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise	8:14 a.m.
Sunset	5:26 p.m.
Moonrise	1:27 p.m.
Moonset	1:51 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
1/10	1/17	1/24	2/1

Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	40°
Low	33°
Normal High	31°
Normal Low	17°
Record High	58° in 2004
Record Low	-6° in 2014

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal for month	0.17"
Year to date	0.00"
Normal Year to date	0.17"

Air Quality

Yesterday 59

Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 ..... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

Weather Trivia

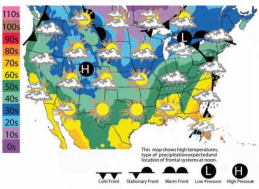
How many hurricanes develop in the Atlantic per year?

Answer: On average, six

Regional Map

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Jan. 4, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, N wind 9 to 16 kt. A chance of rain and snow showers. Waves 2 ft building to 5 ft. Water temperature 37 degrees. Tonight, NW wind 12 to 14 kt. Mostly cloudy. Waves 3 to 5 ft.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with isolated snow showers, highs in the 20s and 30s. West northwest wind 7 to 11 mph. Expect cloudy skies Sunday with widespread rain and snow, highs in the 20s and 30s. South wind 6 to 15 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with isolated snow, highs in the 30s. Northwest wind 8 to 15 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Sunday with isolated snow, highs in the 30s. Southwest wind 13 to 22 mph.

Christmas miracle for Florida dog whose heart stopped

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — A Florida man was hoping for a Christmas miracle when his dog was attacked by another animal, and a team of veterinarians provided it.

The heart of Gerald Ford's 1-year-old French bulldog Neo stopped beating following the attack on Christmas Eve. In a rare occurrence, veterinarians at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine were able to revive Neo.

Research suggests that animals whose hearts have given out live full, healthy lives only 5 percent of the time.

The team of veterinarians who worked on Neo said he will be among them, although he did need a leg to be amputated.

Ford had let Neo outside on Christmas Eve to do his business on his 12-acre property in White Springs, Florida, a rural area between Jacksonville and Tallahassee.

Ford said he found it odd when Neo didn't come back, but he left the front door to his home open a crack so Neo could let himself in. In the middle of the night, Ford said he heard a thud on the front porch and opened the door to see Neo covered in bite marks and losing blood.

Ford said he wasn't sure what animal attacked Neo.

"I'll never forget the look on his face," Ford said. "It was like he was saying, 'Help me.'"

St Joseph Dermatology & Vein Clinic
2900 NILES ROAD, ST. JOSEPH
www.university-dermatology.com • Phone-(269) 428-5199 Fax- (269) 428-5190
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
St. Joseph Dermatology and Vein Clinic would like to introduce Miranda Pierangeli, NP to our practice.
Time for
• Winter Skin Screenings
• Cosmetic Packages are available
Vein Clinic with Dr. Stamatis Dimitropoulos on Wednesdays.
Our Services :
Skin Cancer • Medical Dermatology
Cosmetic Dermatology • Veins
MOHS Micrographic Surgery
Hours: Monday-Friday
8:00AM- 5:00PM
Accepting New Patients and Medicare Assignment

hp LOCAL & STATE

Pace of Benton Harbor's medical marijuana licensing questioned

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Two Benton Harbor city commissioners said that the approval process for the city's medical marijuana applications is flawed and taking too long.

"We've been doing this since ... 2017, and it's 2020," Commissioner Juanita Henry said Wednesday during the city's Legislative Committee meeting. "Everybody's going to be in place and we're not. We're going to go without because the process is not moving fast enough."

City Commissioner MaryAlice Adams said the process has been held up by the city's attorney and financial people.

Henry said it's important that the applications be pushed forward in a fair way.

"The (interim) city manager (Ellis Mitchell) is doing a yeoman's job to clean up the mess he was left, but it's still going real slow," she said.

Mitchell said that of the 14 applications the city has, three have been approved by city staff and were given to commissioners to review. But he said the other 11 have deficiencies that need to be corrected.

Benton Harbor native Audrey Peeples presented the committee with what she said was a streamlined ordinance that would cover both medical and recreational marijuana. She said there are concerns about how long the process is taking in Benton Harbor, especially since the applications have been preapproved by the state.

Peeples said she worked as a paralegal in Chicago for 17 years before returning to her home town, where she has grown medical marijuana for the past 14 years as a licensed care provider. In addition, she said she works as a marijuana consultant.

Benton Harbor commissioners voted to opt out of recreational marijuana until they can put an ordinance in place to regulate it. It became legal to sell recreational marijuana in Michigan on Dec. 1, when state licensing is secured.

Peeples said that in the first two weeks, $3.1 million of marijuana products were sold, bringing in $515,051 in tax money.

"That (money) can go towards schools, roads, wherever you want to allocate it," she said.

And she said that was with only five marijuana shops open across the state.

She said the longer the city waits, the more tax money and jobs it will miss out on.

"We can become the epicenter for this industry," Peeples said.

So far Nobo Michigan has been the only medical marijuana company to be at least partially approved by the city. City commissioners have already approved one Class C grower's license for Nobo's facility at 900 Alreco Road. At their Monday meeting, commissioners will consider another Class C grower's license and a processing license. Nobo also has applied for a provisioning license at a different location in the city. The company can grow up to 1,500 marijuana plants for each Class C growers license it receives.

Nobo Michigan Director Bill Stohler has previously said the company plans to invest $6 million in the city and hire 65 people.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

CEREMONIAL FIRST PUSH

Don Campbell / HP staff

Firefighters and local officials take part in a fire truck push ceremony Friday night to commemorate Lincoln Charter Township Fire Department's new fire truck. The 2019 Pierce Enforcer truck cost the township $546,000, which the township paid for through a loan that trustees approved in May.

Unemployment rates remain relatively unchanged

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

Unemployment rates in November declined or remained flat in Southwest Michigan.

According to the state's Bureau of Labor Market Information and Strategic Initiatives, the typical seasonal employment changes were recorded in Southwest Michigan during that time.

Businesses in leisure and hospitality services and in construction and mining continued to cut jobs, while hiring picked up in retail trade with the holiday shopping season.

Unemployment rates in all areas declined or remained unchanged.

Allegan County's unemployment rate stayed at 2.4 percent from October to November, Cass County's unemployment rate fell from 3.7 percent to 3.3 percent, and Berrien County saw its jobless rate remain the same at 3.1 percent.

The Van Buren and Kalamazoo counties region saw its combined unemployment drop from 3.1 percent to 2.8 percent.

Overall, Michigan finished November with a decrease from 3.5 percent to a 3.2 percent jobless rate.

Out of Michigan's 83 counties, Berrien County had the 24th lowest unemployment rate, with Cass coming in at 28th and Van Buren landing at 40th in the state. Ottawa County had the lowest rate in the state at 2.2 percent, while Mackinac County was the highest at 9.7 percent.

A look at Berrien County jobs

Berrien County lost seasonal jobs in November in leisure and hospitality and in construction and mining.

However, employment in government rose by 200, and a 100-job addition was seen in manufacturing, retail trade, and private educational and health services.

Total non-farm payroll jobs in the Berrien County inched down 100 in November to a total of 63,600. Over the year, jobs in Berrien County continued to improve.

Employment in most major industry sectors improved or remained unchanged, with the exception of trade, transportation, warehousing and utilities. Manufacturing added 400 positions to the area since November 2018.

Government employment improved by 300, and jobs in private educational and health services advanced by 200.

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @TonyWittkowski

Ask a Cop

DANIEL UNRUH
Bridgman Chief of Police

Transporting marijuana the right way

As marijuana becomes legal for adult use in Michigan, can you review the rules for transporting the product home? I know a locked container is involved, but do I need to bring that locked container with me into a dispensary to transport it out to my car? If I have not locked up the marijuana and just have it in my pocket or purse walking from the dispensary to my car, can I be cited for not having it properly secured?

Jane, St. Joseph

There are a lot of unanswered questions regarding the legalization of marijuana and it appears not every court or police agency handles the new law in the same way.

It appears everyone (including the state) is in a learning curve when it comes to enforcing it.

Michigan approved legalization of marijuana with 56 percent of the vote in November 2018 and it's taken nearly a year for Lansing regulators to develop and roll out a licensing system.

Customers will only be allowed to buy up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana at a time from a retail store, and not more than 15 grams of marijuana concentrate.

Those are the same limits for how much marijuana you can carry on your person at a time: up to 2.5 ounces of flower, and up to 15 grams of marijuana concentrate.

You're allowed to keep more at home: individuals can have up to 10 ounces of marijuana flower, as long as it's stored securely.

Here are a few other things to remember:

Marijuana is legal in Michigan – but that doesn't mean you can light up anywhere.

Adults age 21 and over are free to possess marijuana and consume it in private.

Consuming marijuana is limited to private places, like your home or a friend's home. It's not legal to consume marijuana in your car – even if you are a passenger – or in public.

Although marijuana will no longer be required to be transported in a locked container (as was formerly required by medical marijuana card holders), it's probably best to keep it locked up and in the trunk where it's out of reach of underage passengers. Same goes for any marijuana in the home because it is illegal for underage persons to be in possession or use marijuana.

A legal amount of marijuana is allowed to be carried in pockets or purses as long as the possessor is at least 21 years of age.

I hope this answers your question.

Send in your questions about the law; get an answer from those who enforce it. Email your question to AskACop@TheHP.com and it may be featured in an article.

Filmmaker to spotlight overlooked civil rights hero

Free Andrews events is Jan. 16

By HP STAFF

BERRIEN SPRINGS — Leading up to its celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Andrews University will host award-winning filmmaker Martin Doblmeier to discuss his documentary "Backs Against the Wall: The Howard Thurman Story" on Thursday, Jan. 16, according to a news release.

Doblmeier will speak for the university's Forum Series at 11:30 a.m. in the Howard Performing Arts Center. Later that evening, he will participate in a screening and panel discussion of the film at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary Chapel from 7-8:45 p.m.

Both events are free and open to the public.

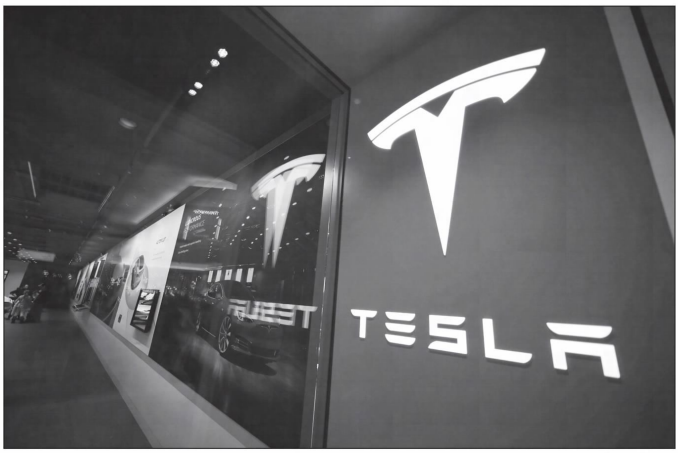
"Winner of a regional Emmy award, 'Backs Against the Wall' explores the extraordinary, yet often overlooked, life and legacy of one of the most important religious figures of the 20th century," the release noted.

Born the grandson of slaves, Thurman became a "spiritual foundation" for the civil rights movement, inspiring many of its leaders including Martin Luther King Jr., Jesse Jackson and Congressman John Lewis.

"Thurman was a celebrated preacher and gifted writer who authored more than 20 books, including the influential 'Jesus and the Disinherited.' In the mid-1930s, he was the first black American invited to meet Mohandas Gandhi. When Thurman returned to America, his writings and speeches planted the early seeds for the nonviolent movement," according to the release.

As founder and president of Journey Films, Doblmeier has produced and directed more than 30 films focused on religion, faith and spirituality. He combines a lifelong interest in religion with a passion for storytelling.

His films explore how belief can lead individuals to extraordinary acts, how spirituality creates and sustains communities and how faith is lived in compelling ways.



David Zalubowski / AP

A sign bearing the company logo stands outside a Tesla store in Cherry Creek Mall in Denver.

3 crashes, 3 deaths raise questions about Tesla's Autopilot

By TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT — Three crashes involving Teslas that killed three people have increased scrutiny of the company's Autopilot driving system just months before CEO Elon Musk has planned to put fully self-driving cars on the streets.

On Sunday, a Tesla Model S sedan left a freeway in Gardena, California, at a high speed, ran a red light and struck a Honda Civic, killing two people inside, police said.

On the same day, a Tesla Model 3 hit a parked firetruck on an Indiana freeway, killing a passenger in the Tesla.

And on Dec. 7, yet another Model 3 struck a police cruiser on a Connecticut highway, though no one was hurt.

The special crash investigation unit of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is looking into the California crash. The agency hasn't decided whether its special-crash unit will review the crash that occurred Sunday near Terre Haute, Indiana. In both cases, authorities have yet to determine whether Tesla's Autopilot system was being used.

NHTSA also is investigating the Connecticut crash, in which the driver told police that the car was operating on Autopilot, a Tesla system designed to keep a car in its lane and a safe distance from other vehicles. Autopilot also can change lanes on its own.

Tesla has said repeatedly that its Autopilot system is designed only to assist drivers, who must still pay attention and be ready to intervene at all times. The company contends that Teslas with Autopilot are safer than vehicles without it, but cautions that the system does not prevent all crashes.

Even so, experts and safety advocates say a string of Tesla crashes raises serious questions about whether drivers have become too reliant on Tesla's technology and whether the company does enough to ensure that drivers keep paying attention. Some critics have said it's past time for NHTSA to stop investigating and to take action, such as forcing Tesla to make sure drivers pay attention when the system is being used.

NHTSA has started investigations into 13 Tesla crashes dating to at least 2016 in which the agency believes Autopilot was operating. The agency has yet to issue any regulations, though it is studying how it should evaluate similar "advanced driver assist" systems.

"At some point, the question becomes: How much evidence is needed to determine that the way this technology is being used is unsafe?" said Jason Levine, executive director of the nonprofit Center for Auto Safety in Washington. "In this instance, hopefully these tragedies will not be in vain and will lead to something more than an investigation by NHTSA."

Levine and others have called on the agency to require Tesla to limit the use of Autopilot to mainly four-lane divided highways without cross traffic. They also want Tesla to install a better system to monitor drivers to make sure they're paying attention all the time. Tesla's system requires drivers to place their hands on the steering wheel. But federal investigators have found that this system lets drivers zone out for too long.

Tesla plans to use the same cameras and radar sensors, though with a more powerful computer, in its fully self-driving vehicles. Critics question whether those cars will be able to drive themselves safely without putting other motorists in danger.

Doubts about Tesla's Autopilot system have long persisted. In September, the National Transportation Safety Board, which investigates transportation accidents, issued a report saying that a design flaw in Autopilot and driver inattention combined to cause a Tesla Model S to slam into a firetruck parked along a Los Angeles-area freeway in January 2018. The board determined that the driver was overly reliant on the system and that Autopilot's design let him disengage from driving for too long.

In addition to the deaths on Sunday night, three U.S. fatal crashes since 2016 – two in Florida and one in Silicon Valley – involved vehicles using Autopilot.

David Friedman, vice president of advocacy for Consumer Reports and a former acting NHTSA administrator, said the agency should have declared Autopilot defective and sought a recall after a 2016 crash in Florida that killed a driver. Neither Tesla's system nor the driver had braked before the car went underneath a semi-trailer that had turned in front of the car.

"We don't need any more people getting hurt for us to know that there is a problem and that Tesla and NHTSA have failed to address it," Friedman said.

In addition to NHTSA, states can regulate autonomous vehicles, though many have decided they want to encourage testing.

In the 2016 crash, NHTSA closed its investigation without seeking a recall. Friedman, who was not at NHTSA at the time, said the agency determined that the problem didn't happen frequently. But he said that argument has since been debunked.

Friedman said it's foreseeable some drivers will not pay attention to the road while using Autopilot, so the system is defective.

"The public is owed some explanation for the lack of action," he said. "Simply saying they're continuing to investigate – that line has worn out its usefulness and its credibility."

In a statement, NHTSA said it relies on data to make decisions, and if it finds any vehicle poses an unreasonable safety risk, "the agency will not hesitate to take action." NHTSA also has said it doesn't want to stand in the way of technology given its life-saving potential.

Messages were left Thursday seeking comment from Tesla.

Raj Rajkumar, an electrical and computer engineering professor at Carnegie Mellon University, said it's likely that the Tesla in Sunday's California crash was operating on Autopilot, which has become confused in the past by lane lines. He speculated that the lane line was more visible for the exit ramp, so the car took the ramp because it looked like a freeway lane. He also suggested that the driver might not have been paying close attention.

"No normal human being would not slow down in an exit lane," he said.

In April, Musk said he expected to start converting the company's electric cars to fully self-driving vehicles in 2020 to create a network of robotic taxis to compete against Uber and other ride-hailing services.

At the time, experts said the technology isn't ready and that Tesla's camera and radar sensors weren't good enough for a self-driving system. Rajkumar and others say additional crashes have proved that to be true.

Many experts say they're not aware of fatal crashes involving similar driver-assist systems from General Motors, Mercedes and other automakers. GM monitors drivers with cameras and will shut down the driving system if they don't watch the road.

"Tesla is nowhere close to that standard," he said.

He predicted more deaths involving Teslas if NHTSA fails to take action.

"This is very unfortunate," he said. "Just tragic."

In brief

Barn fire kills 300K hens at poultry farm

OTSEGO TOWNSHIP (AP) — About 300,000 hens died in a barn fire at a southwestern Michigan poultry farm.

The blaze started about 11 a.m. Friday at the farm in Otsego Township, WWMT-TV reported.

The barn was destroyed. About 250,000 hens in a second barn were unharmed.

About 50 people who work at the cage-free farm were evacuated, according to Konos Inc. spokesman Brian Burch.

The farm will be at reduced production for the near future, he said.

Fire crews were forced to truck in water to battle the blaze.

"Agriculture fires are always a challenge, especially at a place like this," Burch said.

"We don't have city water. We don't have those same kinds of assets that we sometimes take for granted in cities."

The cause of the fire was under investigation.

Detroit homicides up in 2019; overall violent crime down

DETROIT (AP) — Homicides in Detroit increased last year, while overall violent crime in the city was down, according to crime numbers released by the police department.

End-of-year statistics show 273 homicides were committed in 2019 – up from 261 the year before, Chief James Craig said Friday.

The 261 homicides in 2018 were the city's lowest in 50 years.

Detroit's 767 nonfatal shootings last year were more than the 755 in 2018, while robberies also were up in 2019 – 2,337 to 2,309.

But a 21 percent decrease in carjackings from 2018 to 2019 is "probably the most contributing factor" in the city's 4 percent drop in violent crime, Craig said.

"I'm not waving a flag of success," he told reporters. "But I will tell you – progress. Absolutely. But we can't do it alone."

Gang violence was responsible for an uptick in shootings in July and late November into December, he added.

"Crime is trending downward, while I oftentimes say 'when its one homicide it's always one too many,'" Craig said.

Obituaries

Marlene A. Toth

TOTH

Marlene A. Toth, 84, of Bridgman passed away Monday, Dec. 30, 2019, at West Woods of Bridgman.

Cremation has taken place. A private family gathering will be held at a later date. Those wishing to leave a message or share a memory with the family online may do so at www.duffieldpastrick.com.

Marlene was born March 3, 1935, in Milford, Ill., to Delmar and Kathryn (McCalla) Hallock. In the late 1930s they, along with her brother Tom, moved to St. Joseph. Marlene graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1953 and worked for F&M Bank, Clark Equipment and the Captain's Table, where she met her husband, Chuck. Shortly after, they were married on Nov. 17, 1967, recently celebrating their 52nd anniversary. In 1976, they built their forever home in Bridgman where they raised four children together. In 1980, Marlene became the manager at the Peacock Apparel Shoppe in Stevensville, later retiring from Dotty's Chapeaux when they closed.

Marlene had a beautiful sense of style, being colorful, flamboyant and loving to shop. Some of her favorite shops were The Mole Hole, Hoopdee Scootee, Props and James Lee. Her other true passions included decorating for all holidays, being at the beach and on the lake.

Marlene is survived by her husband, Chuck; three children, Larry (Julie) Toth of Vicksburg, Tara (Bryan) Duffield of Coloma and Scott Toth of Benton Harbor; four granddaughters, Sabrina Toth, Ashley (Joel) Larsen, Kendyl (Nathan) Adams and Madyson Duffield; and two great-granddaughters, Everly Adams and Maddox Larsen.

In addition to her parents, Marlene was preceded in death by a daughter, Terri Molpus in 2005.

The entire family would like to extend their appreciation to everyone who participated in her care over the last five years.

Jack A. Kempton

Jack A. Kempton, 87, passed away on Thursday, Nov. 28, 2019.

Jack was born in New Troy, Mich., on Aug. 14, 1932, to the late Otto and Esther Klupp. He graduated from New Troy High School in 1951, and served proudly during the Korean War for the United States Army. He later moved to the Detroit area where he worked as an accountant for more than 40 years.

KEMPTON

He was the beloved husband of Judy for 38 years; the loving father of Linda Kempton; and the dear brother of Donald (and the late Lora) Kempton and Kathy (Dr. Byron) Blagburn.

Edna Mae Brandley

Edna Mae Brandley, 76, of New Buffalo passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020, at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in Mishawaka, Ind. Arrangements have been entrusted to Sommerfeld Chapel, 15 N. Barton St., New Buffalo.

Edna was born on Feb. 1, 1943, in LaPorte, Ind., to the late Homer and Ramona (Herron) Jones. On Feb. 14, 1986, in Galien, she married Richard William Brandley. She was owner and operator of Brandley's Cleaning Service for over 30 years. Edna was a member of Fellowship Bible Church in Sawyer. She had a heart of generosity, servanthood and kindness. Edna exemplified the true testament of Jesus, to love all unconditionally. Edna was a friend to everyone she met and will be greatly missed.

Edna is survived by her husband, Richard; three children, Paula Spiker Kane of South Bend, Ind., Jerry James (Sharon) Spiker of Ashley, Ind., and Esther Joy (Jeremiah) Dewey of Elmira, N.Y.; grandchildren: Robert Lantis, David Lantis, Brooke (Klaus) Nyman, Jade Stell and Ella, Elissa, Teresa, Tynisha and Santiago Dewey; brother, Howard Jones; as well as four half-brothers and five half-sisters.

She is preceded by her sister, Joyce Davis.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 6, at Fellowship Bible Church in Sawyer, with Pastor Paul Delmark officiating. Burial will follow in Pine Grove Cemetery in New Buffalo. Visitation with the family is from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, at Sommerfeld Chapel in New Buffalo. Memorial contributions may be made to the Gideon's International. Friends wishing to leave the family a message of condolence may do so at www.sommerfeld chapel.com.

Debra Kay Wieczorek

WIECZOREK

Debra Kay Wieczorek, 60, of Sawyer passed away on Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019, at her home in the care of her family.

There will be a gathering of family and friends from 2-7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, at the American Legion, Wee-Chik Post 518, 4789 Weechik Road, New Troy. Online condolences accepted at www.PikeFH.com.

Debbie was born on Sunday, Sept. 20, 1959, in Benton Harbor, the daughter of the late Vincent and Maxine (Harper) Sorrels. On May 22, 1980, she married Michael Wieczorek. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She enjoyed the outdoors and campfires, food and lighthouses – but most of all, Debbie loved life.

Survivors include her husband of 39 years, Michael; children, Kelly (Brett) Brown, Carrie (Bryan) Tomes, Kimberly (Skyler Nelson) Wieczorek and Lynette (Jeremy) Milliken; nine grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; and brother, Daniel Sorrels.

Debra was also preceded in death by her sister, Nancy Baggett.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Pike Funeral and Cremation Services, Boyd Chapel, 9191 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman.

Lorraine Dentzman

DENTZMAN

Lorraine Dentzman went to be with the Lord the morning of Dec. 26, 2019, the day of her 70th wedding anniversary. She is now resting peacefully, free of the pain and suffering that had plagued her for several years.

At 89 years old she said she had lived a full life and was looking forward to rejoining her parents, husband and many relatives in eternal life. Over the last couple of years, dementia stole her memory, but she always seemed to recognize her son, John, who was there for her throughout. The family believes this is not a time of sadness or for condolences. They are celebrating Lorraine's life and memories of her, the love and joy she brought into their lives and the people she touched.

The family plans to have a small private memorial this summer, when nature is in full blossom, to share stories and memories of Lorraine's life.

She is survived by her sons, Bob (Barb) and John (Barb); a granddaughter, Katie; her sister, Diane Duffy; and several nieces and nephews.

See more obituaries on Page B3

Obituaries

William Henry Voit

William Henry Voit passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Dec. 31, 2019.

Bill was born Dec. 2, 1946, to Frank and Kathleen (Weed) Voit. He attended Benton Harbor High School. Bill was a U.S. Navy veteran. He got his master's from Sienna Heights. Bill worked for AEP/I&M for 44 years in Bridgman, Benton Harbor and South Bend, helping to keep power to Berrien County. On March 7, 1998, he married Diane (Kolesar) in Stevensville. He loved fishing, reading his Bible and spending time with friends and family. He always had time for a smile or a hug and to listen. He also loved to tinker and passed that on to his children.

VOIT

William leaves behind his loving wife, Diane; and his children, Quentin (Tarrie) Voit of Kalmazoo, Robert (Carla) Kolesar of South Haven, Julie Kolesar of Fairplain and Nancy (Ryan) DeVries of Linden, Mich.; his sister, Fran Otte of Coloma; his 10 grandkids: Nicholas, Adeline, Nathan, Tyler, Kaitlyn, Alexander, Zachary, Anna, Lillian and Jonathan; and his great-grandson, Toby.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Kay; his parents; sister, Mariam Sydlik; and brother, Tom Voit.

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 10, at Calvary Baptist Church in South Bend. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Bill's name may be made to Calvary Baptist Church, 3001 W. Cleveland Road, South Bend, IN 46628.

Clifford Otto Pliml

Clifford Otto Pliml, 77, passed away Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020, at his home in Stevensville, surrounded by his family.

Cliff was born on Aug. 14, 1942, and raised in Berwyn, Ill., by his parents, Otto and Grace (Nikodem) Pliml. When he was young, he earned the highest Boy Scout ranking and became an Eagle Scout. He graduated from Morton High School and volunteered for active service in the U.S. Army, where he specialized as a single engine airplane mechanic and a multi-engine command aircraft maintenance mechanic. After returning home, he enrolled at Moraine College in an advanced welding program.

PLIML

Cliff enjoyed muscle cars like his 69 SS Nova, and during one of his spirited drives with his latest car, he met the love of his life. He married Linda Ann Brown in May of 1973 in Cicero, Ill.

Cliff was dedicated to improving lives through reading comprehension and writing skills by working with Upward Bound and Lake Michigan College as a tutor, and then as the assessment coordinator. He taught countless students the skills necessary to have an opportunity to succeed in college. His skill for the art of calligraphy was admired and appreciated by many. He also was an expert in engraving metals, where he honored individuals in elegant fashion.

After retiring, he was an avid fisherman, rifle marksman and movie watcher. Cliff was a nature lover – feeding the birds, small animals and deer in his yard. He spent most of his days after retirement engaging in reloading for his rifles, watching movies and spending time with his children and grandchildren whenever he could.

Cliff is survived by his wife, Linda; and their children: Jason Pliml (and his wife, Sherri), David Pliml (and his wife, Alyssa) and Sarah Truhn (and her husband, Ryan, and their children). His 15 grandchildren are: Kathryn, Kelsey, Priscilla, Karigan, Robert (Kallie), Kevin, Sydney, Josie, Lena, Nate, Gabriel, Caleb, Evelia, Lucy and Greta; and great-grandchild, Mila. He is also survived by his three sisters, Pat Kaiser, Cindy Waltenspiel and Peggy Kwiatek.

He was proceeded in death by his parents.

The visitation will be held at noon on Saturday, Jan. 11, followed by a service at Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph. Cliff requested that there not be a burial service.

Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at: www.starks-menchinger.com. Please make any remembrance donations to: Caring Circle – Hospice of Michigan, 4025 Health Park Lane, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

John E. Bentley

John E. Bentley, 85, of St. Joseph passed away, Thursday, Dec. 26, 2019, at Lakeland Medical Center in St. Joseph.

Arrangements are entrusted to Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph. Memorial donations in John's name may be made to the St. Joseph-Lincoln Senior Center. Those wishing to sign John's memory book online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

BENTLEY

John was born Feb. 14, 1934, in Kingston, N.Y., to John and Inez (Bishop) Bentley. He graduated from Windham Central High School, class of 1952, and went on to earn a degree in agriculture. John served his country in the U.S. Army, and on April 12, 1958, he married the former Madeline Swift in Rockport, N.Y.

John was employed for many years as a manager at Gerber Baby Foods in Rochester, N.Y., and later at Hanover Brands in Pennsylvania. After moving to St. Joseph, he and Madeline owned and operated Land of Dreams Bedroom Furniture in Benton Harbor. John was an active member of St. Joseph-Lincoln Senior Center. In his free time, he enjoyed tending to his yard and flowers, reading, walking and building scale model buildings of hometown businesses he remembered. John was an honest man of the highest integrity in whatever he did, and most of all, a wonderful husband, father and grandfather.

John is survived by his wife, Madeline; two sons, John R. (Noemi) Bentley of St. Joseph and Jim (Renee) Bentley of St. Joseph; two grandchildren, Barbara (Peter) Hamlington and Ian (Amanda) Bentley; his great-granddaughter, Ada Hamlington; his sister-in-law, Edie Bentley of Windham, N.Y.; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and his brother, Raymond Bentley.

April Marsh

April Marsh, 72, of Galien passed away Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2019, at her home, surrounded by her loving family.

A memorial gathering will be held Friday, Jan. 10, 2020, from 3-9 p.m. at the Buchanan American Legion Post 51, 403 E. Front St., Buchanan. Private burial will take place at a later date in Galien Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to Caring Circle Hospice or the Michiana Two-Cylinder Club. Those wishing to sign April's memory book online may do so at www.swemchapel.com.

MARSH

April was born April 5, 1947, in Buchanan, to Merton and Ruth (Squires) Hanlin. April attended Buchanan High School. On Feb. 13, 1965, she married William Marsh in Buchanan. Together they owned and operated Marsh Farm, and in 1990 they founded Marsh Farm Trucking, LLC, both in Galien. April was a member of St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Buchanan, the Michiana Two-Cylinder Club and the National Tractor Pullers Association. April participated in the Buchanan Plow Days, many local parades, the annual Mackinac Antique Tractor Parade and Show on Labor Day weekend, as well as tractor pulling competitions at the Berrien County Youth Fair and many other local county fairs. April cherished the time spent with her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and attending their sporting events.

April is survived by her husband, William Sr.; her children: William (Jennifer) Marsh Jr. of Galien, Steven (Amy Tinker) Marsh Sr. of Galien and Lisa (Paul Wilkins) Marsh of Buchanan; six grandchildren: Brenten Marsh, Nick Marsh, Kara Marsh, Steven Marsh Jr., Celeste Marsh and Tristen McCarty; two great-grandchildren, Brycen Marsh and Wyatt Lozmack; two sisters; and numerous nieces and nephews.

April was preceded in death by her parents, Merton in 1997 and Ruth in 2013.

Beverly Jean Nieusma

Beverly Jean Nieusma, 92, of Saugatuck passed away peacefully on Christmas Day, 2019, in Holland Hospital.

NIEUSMA

Bevie was born at home in Zeeland, Mich., on March 4, 1927, to Esther (VanDenBeldt) and Adrian Wentzel. After graduation from Holland High, she earned her R.N. degree from Blodgett Hospital. She and Edwin Nieusma married in 1948 and moved to Chicago where she worked at Rush Children's Hospital while Ed finished dental school at Loyola University. Saugatuck was their home as Ed started his dental practice and Bevie raised their three children. She was always active in the First Congregational Church, teaching Sunday School, singing in the choir, and in later years serving on the Women's Fellowship Board, busy with bazaars, rummage sales and helping in the kitchen.

Bevie loved to golf and travel, but most of all, play bridge with a dedicated group of friends who met twice a week and had a real love for one another. She also had wonderful lifetime friends whom she loved to have over for coffee with an array of games and dessert always at hand. Her family was most important to her and she always kept up with every one of her grand- and great-grandkids. She was never happier than when she had everyone over, fussing over each one, or hosting an extended family get-together in the yard. Everyone loved her and she loved everyone, treating them like family.

She was preceded in death by her husband; mother and stepfather (LaClaire Peterson); father and stepmother (Beatrice Wentzel); brother, Bill Wentzel; and in-laws, Harry (Fran) Nieusma, Betty (Paul) Houtman, Ruth (Bill) Forberg, Dorothy DeRidder and Dick (Ruth) Nieusma.

She leaves to celebrate her life, her children: Greg of Saugatuck, Nancy Burch (Dr. Jeff Richards) of St. Joseph and Randy (Melinda) of Saugatuck. Her grandchildren include: Eric (Sara) Nieusma, Clayton (Leslie) Simpson, Spencer Simpson, the Burches: Max (fiancee Abby), Anna (Jon) and Ross (Taylor), and Brooke (Jason) Welch. Her great-grandchildren include: Crew, Grayson, Ronin, Dante, Lyrah Bevie, Wyatt and Westin. She also leaves a sister, Marilyn Perry in Akron, N.Y.; sister-in-law, Shirley Wentzel in Tampa, Fla.; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

A funeral service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2020, at First Congregational Church, 269 Hoffman St., Saugatuck, MI 49053. The Rev. Sarah Terlouw will be officiating. A luncheon will follow the service. Burial will be in Riverside Saugatuck Cemetery.

Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 7, at Dykstra Funeral Home – Saugatuck Chapel, 520 Lake St., Saugatuck. In lieu of flowers, please support the First Congregational Church. Please visit www.dykstrafuneralhome.com to leave a memory.

Beverly Nieusma will be missed.

Bonnie Jean (Nutt) Pollitt

Bonnie Jean (Nutt) Pollitt, 85, passed to her rest at home on Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2019, from congestive heart failure.

POLLITT

Born April 14, 1934, in Kadoka, S.D., she was the eldest daughter of Bonnie Berben "Ben" and Arthelda "Toddy" (Howey) Nutt. Six other children were born, all but one surviving into adulthood.

On Aug. 8, 1965, Bonnie married Gordon Wayne Pollitt, in the recently constructed Seminary Chapel at Andrews University in Berrien Springs. They welcomed three children into their home.

Bonnie was an intelligent woman who dearly loved to read. Her favorite book was "Pollyanna"; her favorite author, James Michener. She enjoyed swimming, golf and traveling in the family camper. She loved roses and the color red. Her favorite foods were popcorn and baked chocolate pudding. Bonnie loved game nights and a good laugh. She believed in Jesus and the resurrection; her life verse was Isaiah 41:10.

Bonnie is survived by her children, Kevin Wayne, Shannon Marie and Brendan Ray Pollitt, all of Berrien Springs; her brothers, Quentin Elroy of Thompsonville, Ill., Bruce Elbert of Hinsdale, Ill., and Robert Eldon "Bob" of Sawyer; as well as numerous beloved nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, Gordon (Dec. 17, 2002); her sister, Arthelda Montana "Tana"; and brother, Charles Oliver "Chuck"; and an infant sibling.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020, in the Youth Chapel of Pioneer Memorial Church, Berrien Springs.

Suzanne Young

Sue's life began July 1, 1953, in Wisconsin, while her dad was serving in the Air Force. After his service, he moved back to Southwest Michigan and made his home in Watervliet, where Sue would grow up. She was a graduate of Watervliet High School and enjoyed being a cheerleader and playing the flute. Her talent with the flute found her touring Europe with the United States Woodwind Tour. Sue loved to learn and that drive translated into a degree in criminal justice and a certificate in education, where she shared her love for learning through being a special education teacher, dance teacher and taught exercise. Sue's adult life took her to live in Florida for many years, where she was an active member of the local Moose Lodge. She moved back to Watervliet a few years ago to be closer to family.

YOUNG

Sue's greatest joy was spending time with her loving family, including: her daughter Tessa Young; her granddaughter and light of her life, Kelsey; her dad, Donald (Fran) Young; and siblings, Kimberly Young (Paul Elenbass) and Jeff (Rhonda) Young.

Sue died Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center in Stevensville.

She is preceded in death by her mom, Lois (Butler) Young; a sister, Lori Coleman; and a stepsister, Tina Bender.

Funeral services will be celebrated at 1 p.m. Monday, Jan. 6, with visitation prior from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Hutchins Funeral Home in Watervliet. Memorials may be made in Sue's memory to the Winter Haven, Fla., Moose Lodge. You are invited to leave a message of comfort for Sue's family at hutchinsfuneral.com.

Lee D. Rosenhagen

Lee D. Rosenhagen, 38, of Belleville, Wis., passed away unexpectedly at his home on Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2019.

ROSENHAGEN

He was born on Dec. 17, 1981, in Berrien Springs, the son of Karen (Williams) and Daniel Rosenhagen. Lee graduated from Bridgman High School, where he played the saxophone and was a member of the Bridgman Marching Band. He continued his education at Lake Michigan College, where he studied hospitality and restaurant management. Lee strove to learn and excel at all aspects of the restaurant business. For the last five years he worked as the general manager of Paoli Schoolhouse Café in Paoli, Wis. On Nov. 19, 2018, he was united in marriage to Levi "Archie" Archer. He enjoyed spending time with family, friends and his animals.

Lee was preceded in death by his mother, Karen Rosenhagen; and his nephew, Taylor Sokol.

He is survived by his husband, Archie; father, Daniel Rosenhagen; sisters, Beth (Tony) Graack and Bonnie Peever; brother, Bruce Sokol; and three nephews.

A celebration of Lee's life will be held from 4-6 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 19, 2020, at the Paoli Schoolhouse Café, 6857 Paoli Road, Belleville, Wis.

The Becker-Beal Funeral Home of Belleville is assisting. Online condolences may be given at www.bealfuneralhomes.com.

Corinne Graziano

Corinne Graziano, 100, of St. Joseph passed away Monday, Dec. 30, 2019, at Hanson Hospice Center in Stevensville, with her grandson, Mikey, by her side.

GRAZIANO

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Jan. 6, 2020, at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 211 Church St., St. Joseph, with burial to follow in Calvary Cemetery. Friends may visit with the family from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5, with a rosary beginning at 5 p.m., at Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph. Memorial contributions may be made to Hanson Hospice Center or to St. Joseph Catholic Church. Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Corinne was born Nov. 21, 1919, the 10th child of Frank and Mamie (Perrone) Micheli, in Chefly, La. Corinne's parents were Sicilian immigrants and she grew up in a big Italian farming family. Most of her family moved to Michigan, where she met and married Emanuel Graziano on Nov. 13, 1937, where they helped their family on the fruit farm. She loved Italian and country music. She was a great Italian cook and passed on those traditions to many family members. She made friends everywhere, including at Vineyards Apartments and The Willows. She loved to play cards with her special friend, Al Vasta, and many family members. Corinne was a very loving person and will be missed deeply by all who knew her.

Corinne is survived by her two daughters, Anna Garlanger and Mamie Graziano; grandchildren, Suzanne (Dan) Moomey, Michael (Mariana) Hoffmann, Mark (Lisa) Garlanger and Carl Uzarski; great-grandchildren, Rachel (fiancé, Jeff Ichesco) Buckner, Michelle Buckner (Manveer Hira) and Ashlyn and Alex Garlanger; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; two sons-in-law, Rudolf Hoffmann and Paul Garlanger; seven sisters; and five brothers.

Corinne's family would like to thank the staff at The Willows and Hanson Hospice Center for all of their compassionate care.

See more obituaries on Page B2

Death notices

Daniel A. "Danny" Baker, 62, of Hartford died Jan. 3, 2020, at Lakeland Hospital, Watervliet. Calvin Funeral Home, Hartford, 621-4101.

Bruce L. Bowren, 67, of Benton Township died Jan. 2, 2020, at home. Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service, Benton Township, 926-7222.

Lorraine Dentzman, 89, former area resident died Dec. 26, 2019. Bangor Chapel, D.L. Miller Funeral Home, 427-7551.

Lynn Foust, 71, of Niles died January 2, 2020, at home. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Arthur L. Guidroz, 55, of Lansing, Mich., died Dec. 29, 2019, at his residence. Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremation Services, Benton Harbor, 926-9440.

Jack A. Kempton, 87, formerly of New Troy died Nov. 28, 2019. A.J. Desmond & Sons Funeral Home, Royal Oak, Mich., (248) 549-0500.

Dolores E. (Martin) Martz, 75, died Dec. 31, 2019, at Hanson Hospice Center, Stevensville. Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremation Services, Benton Harbor, 926-9440.

Beverly J. Nieusma, 92, of Saugatuck died Dec. 25, 2019, at Holland Hospital. Dykstra Funeral Home, Holland, Mich., (616) 392-2348.

Lee D. Rosenhagen, 38, of Belleville, Wis., former area resident died Dec. 17, 2019, at home. Becker-Beal Funeral Home, Belleville, Wis., (608) 424-3771.

William H. Voit, 73, former area resident died Dec. 31, 2019. Kaniewski Funeral Home, South Bend, Ind., (574) 277-4444.

Jackie L. (Jones) Ward, 76, of St. Joseph died Jan. 3, 2020, at Royalton Manor, St. Joseph. Purely Cremations – Starks Family Funeral Homes and Cremation Services, Benton Harbor, 926-9440.

Michael Whitfield, 67, of Niles died Jan. 2, 2020, at home. Brown Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

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BUSINESS PEOPLE

Opas obtains MDRT status again

ST. JOSEPH — Alfred Opas Jr. has qualified for the Million Dollar Round Table for the 49th consecutive year.

AL OPAS

The Round Table is for leading insurance professionals, with membership based on client service, ethics and professionalism. Opas said that besides being a member of the prestigious association, he has three Court of the Table and two Top of the Table honors.

He also is a Platinum Knight of the MDRT Foundation, the philanthropic arm of MDRT.

Founded in 1927, the Million Dollar Round Table is a global, independent association of more than 72,245 of the world's leading life insurance and financial services professionals from more than 500 companies in 70 countries. Membership is recognized internationally as the standard of excellence in the life insurance and financial services business.

Opas, whose office is at 815 Main St. in St. Joseph, offers business and personal insurance, investments and retirement and estate planning. For more information call him at 985-1600 or email a.opas@me.com.

Items for Business People should be emailed to business@TheHP.com, faxed to 429-4398 or mailed to The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph MI 49085.

Dreamstime / TNS

No more hidden fees: New law requires cable, satellite TV companies to disclose full costs

By RON HURTIBISE
(Fort Lauderdale, Fla.) Sun Sentinel

Who hasn't felt ripped off when their cable or satellite TV bill suddenly skyrockets, with no advance warning?

Who hasn't felt stung when the first bill for that $29-a-month plan arrives, packed with previously undisclosed charges for equipment rentals, advanced DVR services, broadcast fees, franchise fees, protection plans, multiple receiver charges, HD charges, regional sports fees and more?

Well, lower your blood pressure. Help is on the way.

A new bill enacted by Congress and signed in late December by President Donald Trump will protect consumers from some surprise fees and at least provide an opportunity to opt out of the ones to come.

Called the Television Viewer Protection Act of 2019, the law takes effect on June 20 unless the Federal Communications Commission grants a six-month extension.

It will apply to standalone TV packages and the TV portion of bundled plans that combine TV with internet service.

The law includes several key protections endorsed by the nonprofit consumer protection agency Consumer Reports:

■ Cable and satellite TV operators will have to disclose the full price of their service – including all fees, charges and taxes, as well as when promotional discounts will expire – within 24 hours after consumers sign up.

■ New subscribers will be able to cancel with no penalty within 24 hours after receiving the full-price disclosure.

■ Providers are forbidden from charging customers to rent equipment they don't use, such as charging to rent a router or modem, when customers choose to use equipment of their own.

"People across the country are fed up with all of the extra fees they pay each month that keep growing more costly year after year," said Consumer Reports senior counsel Jonathan Schwantes. "Cable companies shouldn't be allowed to disguise the true cost of service by charging a long list of add-on fees that aren't

See FEES, page B8

John Clark / Gaston Gazette / TNS

Boxes roll down the conveyor inside the Amazon Fulfillment Center on Tuckaseegee Road in Charlotte, N.C.

10 ways retail shopping changed over the last 10 years

By DOREEN CHRISTENSEN
(Fort Lauderdale, Fla.) Sun Sentinel

Few decades in history have brought more change to retail shopping than the last 10 years.

This year, more than 9,000 retailers went belly up or closed stores, according to a tally by Business Insider.

Payless Shoes, Dress Barn, Barney's, Gymboree, Sears, Kmart, Charlotte Russe, Chico's, Gap, Bed Bath and Beyond and Office Depot were among the long list of legacy retailers that succumbed in the so-called Great Retail Apocalypse of 2019.

Before that, David's Bridal, Brookstone, Claire's, Bon-Ton, Toys R Us and Sports Authority, among many others, went down with great thuds. Malls struggle to rent empty space.

Many factors played into this astonishing transformation of the retail landscape. Here is a look back at some of the profound shifts in shopping from 2010-19.

Amazon

The retailer, which began as an online bookseller in 1994, has profoundly influenced and changed how we shop. It now dominates every aspect of retail. Just a few years ago, it seemed unimaginable that millions of us would be forking over $119 a year for the privilege of shopping online.

Still, Amazon has managed near total destruction of retail, and it is only going to get bigger, with its long tentacles touching and shaping how and when we shop.

While Amazon didn't share sales figures, Cyber Monday was the biggest shopping day in the company's history. That played into a record $9.4 billion in sales on Cyber Monday, an all-time record this year.

Walmart and Target are effectively competing, and have an advantage with thousands of physical stores. That has Amazon playing catch-up after acquiring Whole Foods Market in 2017, with plans to open dozens of grocery and Amazon Go convenience stores, sans cashiers.

Amazon now has the $840 billion grocery market in its crosshairs. Prepare for similar disruption ahead.

The Great Recession

The collapse of the United States real estate market in 2007 caused a calamitous financial crisis that would reverberate through much of this decade, setting in motion a decade-long obsession with savings that became a survival tactic for many struggling consumers.

Companies shed more than 8.8 million jobs as median household wealth fell 35 percent, from $106,591 to $68,839 between 2005 and 2011, according to the Center on Budget Policy and Priorities. The unemployment rate did not return to 5 percent, where it was at the start of the recession, until late 2015.

The recession made using coupons and hunting down deals cool, ushering in the era of discount chains. Marshalls and TJ Maxx, long fixtures in off-price retail, had to move over as chains with cheap merchandise started popping up and prospering while legacy retailers struggled to adapt.

Discount retailers

Thanks to the recession, everyone needed to save a buck. Dollar Tree, Ross Dress for Less, DD's Discounts, Tuesday Morning, Big Lots, Five Below and other off-price chains began to multiply like rabbits.

Macy's, Saks Fifth Avenue, Nordstrom, Bloomingdales and others began opening and expanding outlets. Discounters added pressure on brick-and-mortar legacy retailers such as Sears, Kmart, JC Penney and others to transform their business models with a multifaceted approach to sales or risk certain death.

'Extreme couponing'

A 2011 reality show about super couponers ushered in the gluttonous era of shelf-clearing at the grocery store. The weekly show that aired for five seasons on TLC would feature shoppers clipping hundreds of coupons, and then planning and executing megahauls of food and goods carried out of grocers for free.

Viewers were treated to expansive panoramas of their neat stockpiles showcasing hundreds of bottles of mustard, body wash, toilet paper and Tide. The show spawned a legion of followers that eventually forced grocery stores and food companies to rewrite coupon-redemption policies and limit quantities.

The craze prompted coupon theft, too. Thanks to the show, coupon expiration dates are shorter than they have ever been, with little to no savings on fresh food.

Any way you want it

As the decade progressed, Amazon's dominance made it necessary for retailers to provide customers with a seamless shopping experience no matter how they wanted to make purchases.

This omnichannel strategy offers consumers a seamless experience in stores and online along with convenient services such as free in-store pickup and two-day delivery.

Today, Sears and Kmart are on life support because they were unable to evolve quickly enough in this arena. JC Penney struggles. Target, Walmart, Best Buy, Macy's and Kohl's have thrived.

Going mobile

When Apple introduced the iPhone in 2007, few of us grasped how it would change so many things. It took a few years to catch on, but by 2010 we began paying hundreds of dollars for handheld devices for everyone in the family and also paying wireless phone bills that rival some mortgages.

This Cyber Monday, mobile transactions soared, with $3.1 billion of sales coming from smartphones, a record. Now we use these devices to ring up savings, log into loyalty programs, store coupons in mobile wallets, get text alerts, research products and make purchases.

Stores use smartphones and apps to track our movements and spending when in stores and market their products.

Hearing voices

Remember Hal 9000 in "2001: A Space Odyssey"? The 1968 film was a decade off in predicting the advent of artificial intelligence.

Apple made Siri available on iPhones in 2011. Amazon introduced its voice assistant, Alexa, on Echo devices in 2014. Then Google introduced its assistant in 2016.

Now, we're all talking to computers – which are eavesdropping on us 24/7 – asking them to turn on music, order items off the internet, make grocery lists and remind us of everything from soccer practice to doctors appointments.

Christmas creep

In 2010, Black Friday began to morph into Gray Thursday as a few retailers began carving into holiday traditions by luring shoppers to openings on Thanksgiving. They dutifully lined up on the holiday to snap up cheap TVs and other electronics.

Traditionally, retailers opened in the wee hours on Black Friday, which signaled the official beginning of the Christmas shopping season.

Toys R Us got the ball rolling, with a 10 p.m. Thursday opening. Soon,

See RETAIL, page B8

How to get the right accountant for your business

Your business success depends on many factors.

Managing your money well and understanding your finances are two of the most critical. Unless you are an accountant by trade, it's likely you'll need some outside guidance and insight as you start and grow your company.

Getting help from an accountant can benefit your business in a number of ways:

■ An accountant can inform you of legitimate ways to reduce your tax liability.

■ An accountant can ensure you're aware of reporting requirements and deadlines. (If you're not in compliance, you might have to pay fines.)

SCORE

This column is provided by SCORE, an organization dedicated to helping small businesses start, grow and succeed. The local SCORE chapter provide free and confidential mentoring in management, accounting, marketing and business plan preparation.

■ An accountant can assist you in filing your taxes (saving you time and sparing you headaches).

■ An accountant can provide suggestions that might help you run your business more profitably.

Just as when you contract any other type of professional to help you move your business forward, you should be choosy when selecting an accountant.

According to Jim Lewis, SCORE mentor and former chairman of SCORE's Fort Worth Chapter, "Your first step should be to build a short list of accountants that you would consider 'partnering' with, because that's exactly what you are doing by hiring a business accountant."

Lewis suggests your list only include accountants and accounting firms that meet the following criteria:

■ They have experience in your line of business.

■ They reside in your state and/or city.

■ They come highly recommended by someone or some source that you trust.

■ They are large enough to handle your business requirements in a timely manner, but not too large to get to know you and your business on a personal level.

■ They do tax work as well as weekly/monthly/quarterly/yearly reporting, according to acceptable accounting practices.

"From this short list, you should set up interview meetings with each. For the interviews, you should develop a list of items you wish to judge each candidate by," explains Lewis. "Also apply a simple grading scheme to give candidates a score of 1-3 or 1-5 for each criterion. Include 'price for service' among the judging criteria, but don't make it the number one factor when deciding on which accountant to hire. After all interviews are completed and all grading is reviewed, your top choices should be apparent."

If you need help creating your list of potential accountants, consider asking your local SCORE chapter or chamber of commerce for names of reputable professionals within your community. Call the local branch at 269-925-6100 or visit www.swmi.score.org to request SCORE help with your business.

Struggling to save? Try this 52-week challenge for 2020

Michelle Singletary

Saving for me is like breathing. It just comes naturally.

I recall receiving $10 one Christmas when I was a young girl. I still remember the first thought I had seeing that crisp $10 bill.

"Ooh, I can save this and buy presents next year," I said to myself.

And that's exactly what I did.

A few days leading up to the new year, "#2020Will BeTheYearFor" was trending on Twitter.

You may not have been born to save, but what if 2020 is the year that you finally stick to past promises to build up a substantial emergency fund?

Of course, many Americans live paycheck to paycheck, leaving little to nothing left over for saving. However, if that's not you – if you know you really could save more – then do it this year.

The Pew Charitable Trusts found in a 2015 survey that even well-off households are not prepared to handle a financial shock, such as a major car repair or a loss of income.

Pew reported that one in three American families had no savings, including one in 10 of those with incomes of more than $100,000 a year.

The Federal Reserve, which surveys households about their financial health, found last year that 61 percent of adults could weather an unexpected $400 expense with cash, savings or a credit card paid off at the next statement. However, 27 percent would have to borrow or sell something, and 12 percent couldn't cover the expense at all.

"Volatile income and low savings can turn common experiences, such as waiting a few days for a bank deposit to be available, into a problem for some," the Federal Reserve said.

You've no doubt heard that you should save at least three to six months of living expenses in an emergency fund. That's a daunting goal and often seems so impossible that people don't save anything.

But what if you started small, beginning with just $1?

For 2020, try the incremental "52-Week Savings Challenge," and by the end of the year – barring a financial shock – you'll have socked away $1,378, not counting any interest you may have earned.

Here's how this challenge works. Starting with the first week in January, you save just $1. Week two, you save $2; week three, you'll put away $3, and so on. Your weekly savings amount corresponds to the week of the year.

For many of you, it'll get harder as you get closer to the end of the year, when your deposit will be much larger per week. However, don't give up. Just save what you can.

Even with the first $1, I suggest you electronically transfer each weekly amount into a dedicated checking or savings account.

You don't want bank fees to erode your savings, so look for a financial institution that doesn't charge monthly fees. To find a list of banks with no-fee checking accounts, go to Bankrate.com and search for "Best Checking Accounts for January 2020." The site regularly surveys rates at about 4,800 banks and credit unions in all 50 states.

Here are a few ways to find money as the year progresses and the dollar amounts start to mount.

■ Take a break from your coffee habit. Depending on your typical order, this could be enough to cover some of the weeks when the deposits are in the double digits.

■ Suspend your streaming services. Your favorite shows will still be there to binge watch when you rejoin.

■ Stop eating meals away from home. OK, I probably can't get you to stop eating out for an entire year. But you can do it for a few weeks or months, right?

One reader does the 52-week challenge with a twist:

"I'm fortunate that I can actually do this in increments of $10, and I've saved over $13,000 per year doing this for the past five years," the reader wrote. "It's actually been a fun way to save, and I look forward to each Friday morning when I move my weekly contribution from my checking account."

This is clearly an ambitious savings schedule. But if you want to change things up – as an alternative to the standard challenge – you could reverse the plan and start out saving $52 for the first week and count backward so that you'll only need to save a few dollars a week at the end of the year, when there's more pressure on you to spend for the holidays.

If you decide to do the challenge, send me updates as the year goes by. Email me at colorofmoney@washpost.com, or tweet me @SingletaryM. I'll be your cheerleader and accountability partner along the way. Together, let's make 2020 the year for saving.

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com. Comments and questions are welcome, but due to the volume of mail, personal responses may not be possible. Please also note comments or questions may be used in a future column, with the writer's name, unless a specific request to do otherwise is indicated.

Ask the Fool

How Many Shareholders?

Q Can I find out how many people own shares of a certain company's stock? — *P.F., Pocahontas, Arkansas*

A It's very difficult, if not impossible.

You might start by looking up the company's annual 10-K filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), via the SEC.gov website. For example, in PepsiCo's 10-K for its 2018 fiscal year, it notes, "As of Feb. 8, 2019, there were approximately 114,513 shareholders of record of our common stock." That seems like a lot, but it's probably grossly undercounting shareholders.

Shareholders of record have registered their shares in their own name. But nowadays, most shares of stock are held in "street name." That's when you buy through your brokerage and the shares are registered in the brokerage's name — though you remain their owner.

Meanwhile, many mutual funds hold some PepsiCo shares, and their thousands of shareholders are generally not counted as owners of PepsiCo stock, either.

***

Q I'm selling a stock. How do I determine my cost basis for tax purposes? — *H.L., Burlington, Vermont*

A Your brokerage might be able to tell you your basis. But let's say you buy 100 shares of Dodgeball Supply Co. (ticker: WHAPP) for $30 each and pay a $10 commission. Your cost basis is the purchase price ($3,000) plus the commission, or $3,010. Divide $3,010 by 100, and you'll get a cost basis per share of $30.10. If you eventually sell the shares for $40 each, or $4,000 — again paying a $10 commission — subtract the commission to get net proceeds of $3,990, or $39.90 per share. Your taxable capital gain is the difference — $980, or $9.80 per share. (Many brokerages have recently lowered their trading commissions to $0, making the math a bit easier.)

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The Motley Fool

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Fool's School

How to Combat Inflation

We don't often think about inflation, but ignoring it can cost us severely. The long-term average rate of inflation is around 3%, which may not seem like much, but over many years it can really compound, shrinking your purchasing power.

For example, an average inflation rate of 3% over 25 years will more than double the average price of things. If you start saving and investing for retirement today and retire in 25 years with $1 million, that big nest egg won't buy as much in 2045 as it could today; it would only have the purchasing power of around $478,000 in today's dollars.

Fortunately, you can combat inflation. If you're aiming for a long-term average annual gain of 8% from stock market investments, subtract 3 percentage points for inflation, and you'll get a growth rate of 5%. If you're earning, say, 1% in a savings account, you won't be earning enough to overcome the effect of inflation.

Consider including lots of dividend-paying stocks in your stock portfolio, as many solid companies sport dividend yields of 3% or more, and healthy and growing companies tend to increase their payouts over time.

Instead of studying and picking stocks on your own, you might opt for a dividend-focused mutual fund or exchange-traded fund (ETF), such as the Vanguard Dividend Appreciation ETF (VIG), which focuses on dividend growth and recently yielded around 1.7%.

Even stocks and stock funds that don't offer much or any dividend yield can still serve you well by appreciating over time. So consider a simple, low-fee broad-market index fund, such as the SPDR S&P 500 ETF (SPY). It offers the market's return and recently carried a 1.75% yield.

In the bond world, look into TIPS (Treasury Inflation Protected Securities), which are bonds with interest rates that factor in inflation.

As you go about your financial life, keep inflation in mind.

My Smartest Investment

A Good, Long Story

My smartest investment was in IBM. I worked for the company and retired in 1993 with shares worth around $30,000. My cost basis in them was nearly $46,000 — I'd lost money, overall. I hung on, though, and now, after some stock splits, I have four times as many shares, worth more than $300,000. I took the dividends from the shares in cash and used them for living expenses and to purchase more investments. The dividends from the last four years alone exceeded what I originally paid for the stock.

Meanwhile, we didn't buy any long-term care insurance, but I figure that if we need to, we can sell the IBM shares to cover that, and maybe even be able to deduct the medical expense on our taxes to offset some or all of the capital gains tax we'd face. If we don't need to sell the shares, the stock can end up donated to charity or left to heirs. — *R.L., Eyota, Minnesota*

The Fool Responds: That's great, all around! You learned that many great companies go through down periods, and experienced how robustly some stocks grow over long spans. Reinvesting dividends in more stock is a great way to turbocharge growth, too.

Your long-term care plan is a good one. Those who can't afford the care on their own should consider getting the insurance. It's pricey, though, and cheapest while you're still middle-aged.

The Motley Fool Take

Pfarmas Joining Pforces

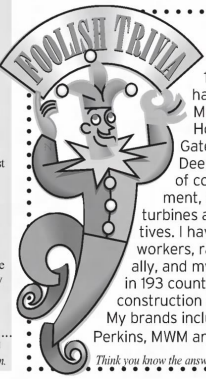
The dividend of pharmaceutical giant Pfizer (NYSE: PFE) recently yielded 3.9%, making it rather appealing to income-seeking investors. Pfizer has long prioritized its dividend program, boosting its payout by 125% over the past 10 years.

Probably the biggest knock against Pfizer is that several of its former top-selling drugs have lost patent exclusivity, notably Lyrica. Declining sales for these drugs present a threat to the company's near-term growth prospects. However, Pfizer has a plan.

It's merging its Upjohn unit, which is home to the drugs that have lost patent protection (such as Viagra and Lipitor), with generic drugmaker Mylan — forming a new company called Viatris. Joining forces with Mylan will allow Pfizer to focus its portfolio on newer and more innovative products — and, hopefully, more profitable ones.

Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla expects that blockbusters such as breast cancer drug Ibrance and blood thinner Eliquis, and anticipated ones like rare-disease drug Vyndaqel, will fuel strong revenue and earnings growth for Pfizer through the mid-2020s.

After the Upjohn-Mylan deal is completed, Pfizer's dividend will likely shrink, but its shareholders will have received shares in Viatris, which will also pay a dividend. Give Pfizer, and its pipeline of products in development, a closer look.



Name That Company

I trace my roots back to the 1886 creation of a combine harvester in Stockton, California. My equipment helped build the Hoover Dam and the Golden Gate Bridge. Today, based in Deerfield, Illinois, I'm a top maker of construction and mining equipment, gas engines, industrial gas turbines and diesel-electric locomotives. I have more than 100,000 full-time workers, rake in around $55 billion annually, and my 168 dealers serve customers in 193 countries. I boast 1.5 million active construction machines around the world. My brands include Progress Rail, SEM, Perkins, MWM and my own name. Who am I?

Think you know the answer? We'll announce it in next week's edition.

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to Texas in 1968, when a family business was launched to sell wigs. Wigs soon fell out of fashion, though, so I shifted toward hair-styling tools. I licensed the Vidal Sassoon brand in the 1980s, very profitably. I added more brands under my umbrella over the years, including OXO, Hydro Flask, Vicks, Braun, Honeywell, PUR and Hot Tools. I'm based in Bermuda, with close to 1,500 employees and a market value that recently topped $4 billion. My mythical namesake was daughter to Zeus and a cause of the Trojan War. Who am I? (Answer: Helen of Troy)

Want to Invest? Email us at foolnews@fool.com, and we'll send you some tips to start investing. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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Millennial Money: Focus on monthly tasks to hit 2020 goals

By SEAN PYLES
NerdWallet

A year is built one day at a time. It's the busy Tuesdays when you never have a moment and the lazy Sundays when you can finally relax.

Focusing on small, cumulative actions can take you far, whether you want to train for a marathon, clean out your garage or start a hobby. This is especially true for money goals, for which daily habits can have big payoffs.

But while New Year's money resolutions are common – with 84 percent of Americans setting money goals, according to a survey from NerdWallet conducted by The Harris Poll (1) in 2017 – so is abandoning them. More than 20 percent of those surveyed ditched their resolutions within two weeks, and over half failed to achieve some or all of their money goals.

You can beat the odds, though. To hit your big money goals in 2020, focus on months and days.

Know your money and pick your goal

Do some initial research and get a detailed understanding of your cash flow, because you have a better chance of improving your finances when you know your starting point. The 50/30/20 budget, where half your income covers needs, 30 percent goes to wants and 20 percent goes to debt and savings, is an easy way to do that.

Use what you learn to decide on and write out your money resolution, getting as specific and realistic as you can. If you want to pay off your debt, for instance, list each account, its balance, monthly payment and interest rate.

"Whatever your goal is, it has to be trackable and quantitative," says Levi Sanchez, founder of Seattle-based Millennial Wealth, a financial planning firm. "If you say you want to pay off your student loans this year, what does that really mean? How much will you pay each month?"

Make monthly goals

Divide your goal into smaller tasks. List the actions you can take monthly and even weekly that will build up to you hitting your target by year-end.

"People treat resolutions like a sprint when really it's a marathon," says Lauren Anastasio, a certified financial planner at SoFi, an online lender. "Anytime you have a goal in mind, break it down into as many mini-goals as you can. You feel more accomplished and you have more momentum when you're checking things off a to-do list."

To build an emergency fund of $1,000, for example, you'll need to save a little over $80 each month. Or if you're set on conquering credit card debt, divide your current balance by 12 to see the monthly payment needed to meet that goal, with adjustments for any accruing interest charges if necessary.

Build daily habits

Your daily money management is the groundwork for achieving goals. Build habits that make accomplishing your monthly money tasks easier.

To get better at sticking to your budget, for example, set aside time at the end of each day to review what you spent and how well you followed your budget. Automate savings or debt payments to the extent that you can.

"A lot of building good money habits comes down to knowing your needs versus wants and having a spending plan so you know what obligations you're meeting," says Paul Golden, managing director of communications at the nonprofit National Endowment for Financial Education. "I'm a big fan of automating things so the habit is almost forced."

Give yourself a break – and reward

Life happens. You might set a certain debt payment, then your car's transmission blows – and drags your monthly budget down with it. Give yourself the flexibility to adjust the plan so you don't just give up.

"One of the benefits of breaking the goal into mini-goals is that if you miss one piece, you don't feel like you failed at the whole thing," Anastasio says. "It's always about how you frame the goals you set for yourself and giving yourself a clean slate at the beginning of each month."

And reward yourself when you hit milestones, like choosing a robo-advisor to start investing with or having a month where you stick to your budget. Achieving money resolutions isn't easy.

"I find people don't celebrate the little things," says Tania Brown, a Georgia-based certified financial planner. "A month where you didn't rack up any new credit card debt is huge."

Sean Pyles is a writer at NerdWallet. Email: spyles@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @seanpyles.

Money&Markets Extra

The Week Ahead

Out of balance

The nation's trade gap narrowed last fall as imports declined faster than exports.

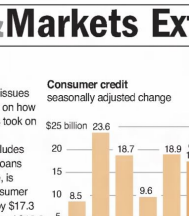
The gap between what America sells and what it buys abroad dropped 7.6% to $47.2 billion in October. That followed a 4.5% decline in September. Even so, the trade gap was still running 1.3% wider through the first 10 months of 2019 than in the same period in 2018. The Commerce Department issues its November trade gap tally Tuesday.

Just charge it

The Federal Reserve issues new data Wednesday on how much debt Americans took on in November.

The tally, which excludes mortgages and other loans secured by real estate, is expected to show consumer borrowing increased by $17.3 billion. Borrowing climbed $18.9 billion the previous month. That gain in October pushed total consumer credit to a record $4.17 trillion.

Consumer credit
seasonally adjusted change



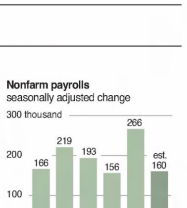
Source: FactSet

Hiring slowdown?

Economists predict hiring in the U.S. slowed in December after surging the previous month.

They expect the Labor Department will report Friday that non-farm employers added 160,000 jobs in the final month of 2019. Employers added a robust 266,000 jobs in November. Many economists have warned that hiring could slow because there are fewer unemployed workers available with the U.S. unemployment rate now at 3.5%.

Nonfarm payrolls
seasonally adjusted change



Source: FactSet

Amer Elec Power AEP
$93.36 - **.83 -.9%**
▲ 4-wk. +1.0% ▼ YTD -1.2%

Ford Motor F
$9.21 - **.15 -1.6%**
▲ 4-wk. +2.1% ▼ YTD -1.0%

Whirlpool WHR
$145.92 - ...**%**
▼ 4-wk. -1.1% ▼ YTD -1.1%

StocksofLocalInterest

STOCK	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LOW	HIGH	FRIDAY CLOSE	$CHG 1WK	%CHG 1WK	1MO	1QTR	%CHG YTD	%RTN 1YR	PE	YLD
AT&T Inc	T	28.92	39.70	**39.06**	**-0.18**	**-0.5**	▲	▲	-0.1	44.1	18	5.3
Amer Elec Power	AEP	72.44	96.22	**93.36**	**-0.83**	**-0.9**	▲	▼	-1.2	30.1	24	3.0
Apple Inc	AAPL	142.00	300.60	**297.43**	**7.63**	**2.6**	▲	▲	1.3	88.1	27	1.0
AutoZone Inc	AZO	798.41	1274.41	**1187.98**	**-14.61**	**-1.2**	▲	▲	-0.3	42.1	21	...
BP PLC	BP	35.73	45.38	**38.83**	**0.97**	**2.6**	▲	▲	2.9	6.0	11	6.3
CMS Engy	CMS	48.32	65.31	**62.31**	**-0.23**	**-0.4**	▲	▼	-0.8	29.7	38	2.4
CocaCola Co	KO	44.42	55.92	**54.69**	**-0.66**	**-1.2**	▲	▲	-1.2	20.3	33	2.9
Comcast Corp A	CMCSA	33.30	47.27	**45.01**	**-0.09**	**-0.2**	▲	▲	0.1	33.9	22	1.9
Deere Co	DE	132.68	180.48	**175.55**	**0.50**	**0.3**	▲	▲	1.3	18.2	17	1.7
Disney	DIS	107.32	153.41	**146.50**	**0.75**	**0.5**	▼	▲	1.3	33.5	20	1.2
Dollar Tree Stores	DLTR	87.87	119.71	**93.03**	**0.19**	**0.2**	▲	▼	-1.1	4.1	12	...
Exxon Mobil Corp	XOM	66.31	83.49	**70.33**	**0.44**	**0.6**	▲	▲	0.8	7.4	16	4.9
Fifth Third Bcp	FITB	23.10	31.64	**30.44**	**-0.22**	**-0.7**	▲	▲	-1.0	34.6	11	3.2
1st Source Corp	SRCE	39.11	53.42	**51.47**	**-0.51**	**-1.0**	▲	▲	-0.8	31.3	15	2.3
Ford Motor	F	8.03	10.56	**9.21**	**-0.15**	**-1.6**	▲	▲	-1.0	29.4	7	6.5
Gen Electric	GE	7.65	11.96	**11.97**	**0.79**	**7.1**	▲	▲	7.3	53.9	...	0.3
Home Depot	HD	172.00	239.31	**218.93**	**-1.04**	**-0.5**	▲	▼	0.3	30.3	22	2.5
Horizon Bcp IN	HBNC	15.21	19.48	**18.70**	**-0.13**	**-0.7**	▼	▲	-1.0	23.2	8	2.6
Huntgtn Bancshs	HBAN	11.72	15.63	**14.81**	**-0.31**	**-2.1**	▼	▲	-1.8	31.4	14	4.1
IDEX Corp	IEX	128.76	173.95	**172.76**	**0.14**	**0.1**	▲	▲	0.4	37.8	36	1.2
IBM	IBM	116.67	152.95	**134.34**	**-0.93**	**-0.7**	▼	▼	0.2	23.6	14	4.8
JPMorgan Chase & Co	JPM	98.09	141.10	**138.34**	**0.10**	**0.1**	▲	▲	-0.8	46.2	14	2.3
Johnson & Johnson	JNJ	125.00	147.84	**144.28**	**-1.47**	**-1.0**	▲	▲	-1.1	15.9	24	2.6
Lowes Cos	LOW	90.23	121.46	**119.60**	**-0.63**	**-0.5**	▲	▼	-0.1	31.9	27	1.8
McDonalds Corp	MCD	173.41	221.93	**200.08**	**1.91**	**1.0**	▲	▼	1.2	14.0	30	2.5
Microsoft Corp	MSFT	97.20	160.73	**158.62**	**-0.34**	**-0.2**	▲	▲	0.6	57.1	...	1.3
Miller Herman	MLHR	29.55	49.88	**41.60**	**-0.03**	**-0.1**	▼	▼	-0.1	40.4	18	2.0
Penney JC Co Inc	JCP	0.53	1.92	**1.10**	**-0.04**	**-3.5**	▼	▲	-1.8	7.7	...	...
Perrigo Co plc	PRGO	40.68	67.50	**49.96**	**-1.96**	**-3.8**	▼	▼	-3.3	35.4	15	1.7
Pfizer Inc	PFE	33.97	44.56	**38.93**	**-0.39**	**-1.0**	▼	▲	-0.6	6.9	16	3.9
Procter & Gamble	PG	89.08	126.60	**122.58**	**-3.51**	**-2.8**	▼	▼	-1.9	39.1	28	2.4
Republic Svcs	RSG	72.52	90.62	**90.21**	**0.42**	**0.5**	▲	▲	0.6	26.5	41	1.8
Steelcase Inc	SCS	14.45	23.02	**20.29**	**-0.27**	**-1.3**	▲	▲	-0.8	41.9	17	2.9
Stryker Corp	SYK	156.35	223.45	**209.59**	**-0.38**	**-0.2**	▼	▲	-0.2	35.3	36	1.0
TCF Financial Corp	TCF	35.96	47.71	**46.42**	**-0.25**	**-0.5**	▲	▲	-0.8	24.5	13	3.0
Target Corp	TGT	66.53	130.24	**124.76**	**-4.45**	**-3.4**	▼	▲	-2.7	97.9	21	2.1
Tractor Supply	TSCO	80.31	114.25	**91.96**	**-0.34**	**-0.4**	▼	▲	-1.6	13.6	25	1.5
UPS class B	UPS	92.65	125.31	**116.72**	**-2.22**	**-1.9**	▼	▼	-0.3	24.0	20	3.3
Verizon Comm	VZ	52.28	62.22	**60.40**	**-1.13**	**-1.8**	▼	▲	-1.6	13.5	16	4.1
WEC Energy Group	WEC	67.56	98.19	**91.24**	**-1.07**	**-1.2**	▼	▼	-1.1	36.6	29	2.8
WalMart Strs	WMT	93.11	125.38	**117.89**	**-1.70**	**-1.4**	▼	▼	-0.8	29.9	68	1.8
Walgreen Boots Alli	WBA	49.03	74.95	**59.08**	**0.06**	**0.1**	▲	▲	0.2	-11.1	11	3.1
Wendys Co	WEN	15.33	22.84	**22.38**	**0.22**	**1.0**	▲	▲	0.8	45.0	25	2.1
Whirlpool	WHR	111.97	163.64	**145.92**	**0.00**	**0.0**	▼	▼	-1.1	42.5	...	3.3
Worthington Inds	WOR	33.18	44.69	**41.20**	**-1.29**	**-3.0**	▼	▲	-2.3	23.8	16	2.3
XPO Logistics Inc	XPO	45.73	86.47	**78.24**	**-2.06**	**-2.6**	▼	▲	-1.8	39.7	31	...

Notes on data: Price-earnings ratio unavailable for closed-end funds and companies with net losses over prior four quarters.

Story Stocks

Stocks fell and oil prices surged Friday after a U.S. strike killed a top Iranian general in Iraq, raising tensions in the Middle East. The selling ended a five-week winning streak for the S&P 500. The price of U.S. crude oil climbed 3.1%. Investors sought safety in U.S. government bonds, sending their yields lower. The price of gold rose. Technology, financial and health care stocks accounted for much of the selling.

Incyte INCY
Close: **$77.90 ▼-8.07 or -9.4%**
The drug developer said an experimental graft-versus-host disease drug failed to meet treatment goals in a key study.

$69.12 $96.79
Vol.: **5.5m (4.6x avg.)** PE: **41.8**
Mkt. Cap: **$16.8 b** Yield: ...

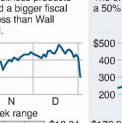
Conagra CAG
Close: **$33.34 ▼-0.29 or -0.9%**
The food company completed the sale of its Lender's Bagel business to Grupo Bimbo's Bimbo Bakeries USA unit.

$20.81 $35.59
Vol.: **3.0m (0.7x avg.)** PE: **20.3**
Mkt. Cap: **$16.2 b** Yield: **2.5%**

Lamb Weston LW
Close: **$93.56 ▲9.47 or 11.3%**
The frozen foods supplier's fiscal second-quarter earnings and revenue beat Wall Street forecasts.

$58.83 $94.46
Vol.: **3.9m (4.3x avg.)** PE: **28.9**
Mkt. Cap: **$13.7 b** Yield: **1.0%**

Landec LNDC
Close: **$10.03 ▼-1.14 or -10.2%**
The health and wellness products company reported a bigger fiscal second-quarter loss than Wall Street anticipated.



$9.00 $13.24
Vol.: **1.1m (10.3x avg.)** PE: ...
Mkt. Cap: **$292.4 m** Yield: ...
SOURCE: FIS

Tesla TSLA
Close: **$443.01 ▲12.75 or 3.0%**
The electric vehicle maker reported a 50% rise in deliveries for 2019.

$176.99 $454.00
Vol.: **17.6m (1.9x avg.)** PE: ...
Mkt. Cap: **$79.9 b** Yield: ...

JPMorgan Chase JPM
Close: **$138.34 ▼-1.85 or -1.3%**
Banks suffered as bond yields fell, hurting their ability to charge more lucrative interest rates on loans.

$98.09 $141.10
Vol.: **10.1m (1.0x avg.)** PE: **13.7**
Mkt. Cap: **$433.9 b** Yield: **2.6%**
AP

Company Spotlight

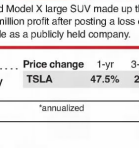
Tesla delivers

Tesla's stock jumped 3% after the electric car maker said deliveries rose more than 50% last year. The sharp increase means the company surpassed the low end of its sales goals for 2019.

The company delivered 112,000 vehicles in the fourth quarter and about 367,500 for the full year. The Palo Alto, California company had earlier projected annual deliveries of between 360,000 and 400,000 units worldwide.

The lower-cost Model 3 accounted for 83% of the company's fourth-quarter sales at 92,550. The higher priced Model S Sedan and Model X large SUV made up the rest.

The company surprised investors in the third quarter with a $143 million profit after posting a loss of $1.1 billion during the first half of 2019. It has mostly lost money in its first decade as a publicly held company.



Tesla (TSLA) Friday's close: **$443.01, +12.75**

52-WEEK RANGE $177 – $454

Price-earnings ratio: **Lost money** (Based on past 12-month results)

Price change	1-yr	3-yrs*	5-yrs*
TSLA	47.5%	26.9	15.1

*annualized Source: FactSet

StocksofLocalInterest

STOCK	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LOW	HIGH	FRIDAY CLOSE	$CHG 1WK	%CHG 1WK	1MO	1QTR	%CHG YTD	%RTN 1YR	PE	YLD
AB												
DiversMunicipal		14.63	+.05	+5.7								
GblEdAdv		8.53	+.03	+7.8								
LgCpGrAdv		63.34	-.16	+38.1								
AMG												
Yacktman		20.46	-.04	+19.4								
Alvo												
FocInstl d		45.82	+.15	+38.9								
FocRetail m		44.67	+.14	+38.5								
American Beacon												
SmCpValInstl		24.22	-.04	+25.3								
American Century												
EqIncI		9.12	-.03	+26.1								
EqIncInv		9.11	-.03	+25.9								
G Inv		36.68	+.29	+40.3								
UltraInv		52.61	+.15	+39.5								
American Funds												
AMCpA m		33.68	-.02	+30.2								
AmcnBalA m		28.59	...	+21.0								
AmcnIncmA m		10.09	+.01	+11.7								
AmcnMutA m		43.51	-.08	+23.9								
BdfAmrcA m		13.15	-.13	+7.8								
CpWldGrIncA m		52.46	...	+28.6								
CptIncBldrA m		63.43	...	+18.7								
CptWldBdA m		20.32	+.10	+7.3								
EurpPacGrA m		55.91	+.93	+30.2								
FdmtlInvsA m		62.20	-.09	+31.0								
GblBalA m		34.44	+.04	+18.6								
GrAmerA m		51.41	-.02	+31.9								
HlmdMunBdA m		16.49	+.04	+8.9								
IncAmrcA m		23.27	+.03	+19.9								
IntlGrInc A		36.37	+.09	+29.7								
InvmBdfAmrA m		13.48	-.09	+4.4								
InvCAmrcA m		39.69	-.09	+27.1								
NewWrldA m		70.78	-.03	+30.3								
NwPerspA m		47.51	-.01	+34.1								
SmCpWldA m		58.83	-.16	+37.4								
TheNewEcoA m		45.91	-.05	+30.6								
TxExBdA m		13.36	+.05	+7.2								
WAMtInvsA m		48.29	-.03	+28.7								
Angel Oak												
MltStrInco Ins		11.04	+.01	+5.2								
Baird												
AggregateBdInstl		11.28	+.06	+9.4								
CorPlusBdInstl		11.62	+.05	+10.0								
IntermBdInstl		11.31	+.04	+6.9								
ShrTrmBdInstl		9.78	+.01	+4.6								
Baron												
EmMktsInstl		14.84	+.06	+21.3								
Grthinstl		86.40	+.47	+45.1								
BlackRock												
EqDivInstl		20.84	-.08	+28.7								
EqDivInvA m		20.77	-.08	+28.4								
GblAlcInclnstl		19.38	+.03	+18.1								
GblAlcInvA m		19.26	+.03	+17.8								
HYBdInst		7.78	...	+15.3								
HYBdK		7.79	+.01	+15.6								
LowDurBdInstl		9.65	+.01	+3.4								
NrmlMnInstl		11.18	+.04	+7.5								
StrInco Opplns		9.98	+.02	+7.5								
StrsMuOpIns		11.81	+.04	+9.3								
TIRtInst		11.99	+.04	+9.3								
Calamos												
MktNeuIncIns		13.32	...	+7.1								
Causeway												
IntlValInst		15.63	-.04	+22.0								
ClearBridge												
AggressivGrA m		174.83	-1.24	+25.7								
AggressivA m		26.29	-.05	+33.2								
LgCpGrI		54.93	-.01	+35.5								
Cohen & Steers												
PrrdSecInc Inst		14.34	+.05	+18.0								
RlEstScInc Ins		17.51	+.05	+33.4								
Columbia												
DivInc Ins		24.46	-.05	+31.3								
StgCmsInfA m		80.66	+.44	+61.5								
DFA												
EMktCorEqI		21.83	+.05	+18.3								
EMktSCInst		20.97	+.25	+17.1								
EmMktsInstl		29.27	+.01	+18.4								
EmMktsVaInstl		28.73	+.05	+11.5								
FxdVGblPIns		10.75	+.01	+3.9								
GblAlc60/40Ins		18.94	...	+19.2								
GblEqInstl		24.85	-.03	+28.8								
GblRelEstSec		11.75	+.04	+30.4								
IntlPrpISecIns		12.17	+.12	+6.6								
IntlCorEqIns		13.79	-.05	+22.8								
IntlRelEstSecIns		6.99	+.02	+23.8								
IntlSmCoInstl		18.87	-.03	+24.9								
IntlSmCpVaIns		19.94	-.08	+26.0								
IntlValInstl		17.71	-.05	+16.6								
InvGovFIIns		12.89	+.08	+7.2								
LgCpIntlInstl		23.66	-.28	+29.4								
OneYearFlInstl		10.30	...	+2.4								
RlEstSecInst		40.71	+.13	+29.5								
ShTrmExGvtyI		10.82	+.01	+4.4								
TAUSCorEqSInstl		20.17	-.02	+32.0								
TAWeuUSCEqIns		11.21	-.01	+21.5								
TMDuSEq		34.78	-.03	+34.2								
TMDuSMktwdVI		32.32	-.10	+28.3								
TMDuSTgtedVal		35.33	-.04	+22.2								
TwTxGblFlIns		9.91	...	+2.8								
USCorEqI Instl		25.94	-.03	+32.9								
GlobalexUSIdx		13.20	-.02	+23.2								
GblMacroIns		17.85	-.03	+44.2								
GroCo		21.49	-.02	+43.3								
GroCoK		21.52	-.03	+43.4								
GrowthInc		42.37	...	+31.9								
Highlncome		8.98	+.02	+14.4								
IntlDisc		45.44	-.11	+29.5								
IntlGr		17.55	-.06	+38.5								
IntlIdxIntlPrm		42.98	-.17	+23.5								
IntlVal		9.92	-.01	+21.6								
IntrmMuniInc		10.67	+.04	+6.5								
InvmGradeBd		8.23	+.03	+9.6								
InvmGradeBd		11.64	+.05	+9.8								
LargeCapValIdx		13.15	-.05	+28.2								
LgCpShEnhIdx		13.67	-.05	+25.8								
LowPrStk		49.76	-.27	+26.1								
LowPrStkK		49.70	-.27	+26.2								
Magellan		10.26	+.02	+35.2								
MichiganMuniIns		12.52	+.05	+7.1								
MidCapStock		35.76	+.04	+26.9								
NasdCmpIdx		113.27	+.20	+41.9								
NewMicroInc		15.05	-.04	+10.7								
OTCPortfolio		12.88	+.02	+44.6								
OTCPortfolioK		13.10	+.02	+44.8								
Overseas		51.79	-.09	+30.9								
Puritan		22.86	-.04	+23.7								
PuritanK		22.84	-.04	+23.8								
RealEstInv		44.73	+.19	+27.5								
ShTrmBd		8.71	+.01	+4.2								
SmCpOpps		13.98	-.04	+32.1								
StkSelectAllCp		47.98	-2.95	+35.5								
TaxFreeBond		11.97	+.05	+8.5								
TotalBond		10.97	+.04	+9.8								
TtlMktIdxPrm		90.71	-.09	+34.1								
USEqIdxInstPrm		11.99	+.05	+34.5								
Value		10.99	-.05	+31.4								
Fidelity Advisor												
NewInsA m		32.29	+.08	+32.6								
NewInsI		33.12	+.08	+32.9								
StgInc		12.90	+.03	+11.2								
StgIncI		12.90	+.03	+11.2								
TotalBondI		10.95	+.04	+9.8								
Fidelity Select												
Biotechnology		21.73	-.53	+34.3								
ChemicalsInc		28.44	-.31	+39.2								
ITServices		73.70	-.19	+46.8								
MedTechDevcs		59.89	-.46	+36.0								
Semicon		12.52	-.03	+72.1								
SwrsAllTPcvs		19.98	+.03	+44.8								
Technology		20.08	+.11	+60.4								
First Eagle												
GlbA m		58.00	-.03	+21.3								
Franklin Templeton												
CATxFFInclA m		7.69	+.04	+9.1								
DynaTechA m		89.75	+.43	+39.3								
FdrTFIncA t m		12.03	+.05	+6.9								
GblBdA m		10.69	+.05	+9.8								
GblBdAdv		10.65	+.06	+11								
GblBdR6		10.65	+.06	+11								
GrIncA m		22.57	-.06	+15.2								
GrA m		113.08	+.39	+37.5								
IncA t m		2.34	-.01	+16.3								
IncAdv		2.32	-.01	+16.6								
IncC x		2.38	...	+15.9								
MidCapGbDiscvA m		30.64	+.06	+25.4								
MutGblDiscvZ		31.32	+.06	+25.7								
MutZ		27.82	+.04	+23.4								
RisingDivsA m		68.62	-.18	+33.5								
GE												
RSPUSEq		57.47	-.03	+35.3								
Harbor												
CapApprecInst		76.52	+.22	+38.9								
Harding Loevner												
EmMktsAdv d		59.80	+.47	+27.6								
IntlEqInstl d		23.85	-.02	+26.9								
Hartford												
CpnlAppreciA m		37.52	+.04	+34.1								
MidCpI		31.83	+.07	+37.0								
INVESCO												
Div&GthA m		25.02	-.07	+25.8								
OpptAprcA m		55.98	+.06	+37.4								
OvrseaBdA m		46.85	+.18	+28.6								
DevMktsY		46.11	+.17	+28.3								
DiversDvA m		20.63	-.15	+25.9								
EqprsmDvA m		10.29	-.02	+20.5								
GlbA m		96.32	-.31	+45.4								
HYMunA m		10.34	+.03	+9.8								
IntlGrY		44.29	-.14	+32.4								
MnStrA m		48.25	-.05	+35.2								
MnsA m		16.85	+.07	+12.8								
Ivy												
SciAndTechA m		72.16	+.04	+57.8								
JPMorgan												
CPBondR6		8.50	+.03	+8.9								
CoreBondI		11.91	+.05	+8.5								
CoreBondUpIns		11.92	+.05	+8.6								
EqInc		19.40	-.08	+28.0								
HighYldR6		7.28	+.01	+13.6								
LCapGrI		41.08	+.15	+43.9								
MCapVal		39.43	-.16	+27.7								
James Henderson												
BalancedT		36.93	+.01	+23.2								
EnterpriseT		141.27	+.25	+37.1								
Janus												
QualGrI		51.76	-.19	+34.0								
John Hancock												
BdNtr		16.21	+.05	+10.6								
DiscpVal		20.65	-.12	+24.2								
DiscpValMCI		22.20	-.08	+32.3								
DiscpValR6		20.68	-.12	+24.3								
IntlGrI		30.17	-.04	+31.8								
MMtgLgBlA b		14.13	+.01	+20.4								
MtmgrLgGrI b		14.35	+.01	+24.3								
Lazard												
EMEquityI		18.47	-.05	+18.7								
GlbListInsIns		15.74	-.17	+20.9								
IntlStrcEqIns		15.41	...	+24.0								
Loomis Sayles												
BdInstl		13.87	+.04	+11.5								
GrY		18.43	-.04	+35.2								
Lord Abbett												
AffiliatedA m		15.70	-.11	+26.9								
BdDebA m		8.16	+.02	+13.9								
BdDebF b		8.14	+.01	+13.9								
ShrtDurIncA m		4.22	+.01	+5.4								
ShrtDurIncC m		4.24	+.01	+5.3								
ShrtDurIncF b		4.21	...	+5.3								
ShrtDurInvI		4.21	...	+5.4								
MFS												
GrA m		119.93	+.08	+42.4								
GrInc A		128.21	+.39	+42.3								
IntlIntrlEq		27.89	-.08	+30.8								
MAInvsGrStkA m		32.98	-.10	+43.4								
MAInvsTrustA m		32.80	-.09	+33.0								
TtlRetA m		20.03	-.03	+21.5								
ValA m		44.43	-.09	+32.1								
Vall		44.69	-.09	+32.5								
Mairs & Power												
GrInv		127.05	-.71	+32.0								
MassMutual												
SelectMidCpGrI		23.74	+.02	+36.2								
Metropolitan West												
EMBd		11.65	+.02	+11.0								
EMDbt		47.11	+.14	+28.3								
EqIdxSI00		85.95	-.11	+34.5								
EqIdxSI		31.99	-.03	+27.6								
GlbTech		16.63	+.09	+41.3								
GrSk		74.08	+.14	+35.7								
HY		8.69	...	+14.8								
HthSci		69.61	-1.26	+32.0								
IntlLgCpGrGr		49.15	+.05	+35.4								
IntlLgCpGr		41.49	+.05	+33.5								
IntlMdCpEqGr		61.26	+.09	+37.2								
IntlSmCpStk		25.63	+.03	+36.4								
IntlStock		88.42	+.15	+27.1								
IntlUSEq		14.18	-.03	+21.6								
MdCpGr		95.57	+.15	+35.5								
MdCpVal		27.83	-.04	+19.6								
NewAmericaGr		55.22	+.23	+36.6								
NewHorizons		60.09	+.48	+43.2								
NewInc		9.76	+.03	+9.1								
SmCpEqInstl		11.18	-.04	+24.1								
SmCpStk		39.76	...	+37.0								
Nuveen												
Rnl2020		14.54	+.02	+16.4								
Rnl2025		22.15	+.03	+20.6								
Rnl2030		17.84	+.02	+22.5								
Rnl2035		25.98	+.02	+24.3

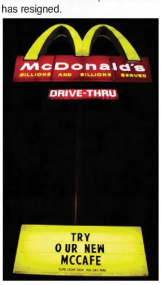
MarketPulse

GOODBYE KISSES

The Hershey Co. is retiring its vehicles shaped like its Hershey's Kisses. The Hershey Kissmobiles are each made up of three huge Hershey's Kiss candies and have traveled across the country since 1997. The chocolate company has confirmed that the 26-foot-long vehicles won't return in 2020. A Hershey spokesman says the company decided to pull the aging Kissmobiles out of safety concerns for employees and the public, as it has become more difficult to find replacement parts for the custom vehicles. One Kissmobile will be put into a museum.

A FAKE COFFEE DISPUTE

A Kansas police department apologized after one of its officers admitted to making up a story that a McDonald's employee wrote an expletive and the word "pig" on a coffee cup. The officer "completely and solely fabricated" the allegation that he was handed the coffee cup with the expletive at a McDonald's drive-thru in Junction City, Kansas. The owner of the McDonald's said the restaurant has security video that proves none of its employees wrote the words. The police officer has resigned.



LEGAL WEED IN ILLINOIS

Illinois became the 11th state to allow the purchase and use of recreational marijuana. The law approved by the Democratic-controlled legislature and signed by Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker allows people 21 or older to possess of up to 30 grams (1.06 ounces) of cannabis flower and up to 5 grams (0.17 ounces) of cannabis concentrate. Recreational marijuana is expected to generate $250 million in tax revenue for Illinois by 2022.

AP

Quotable

"Revenge will come, maybe not overnight, but it will come."

— **Olivier Jakob**, head of consultancy Petromatrix, after the price of oil rose sharply following a U.S. strike that killed an Iranian general, raising tensions in the region.

Amazon warehouse robots

Order something from Amazon, and it's likely a robot will help get it to you.

The tech giant had 200,000 robotic vehicles moving goods through its U.S. warehouses by the holiday rush of 2019. That's double what it had in 2018 and up from 15,000 in 2014.

Amazon says it also doubled the number of warehouses where those wheeled robots operate, to 50 in 2019. The machines are speeding up delivery times and cutting costs, though there are concerns they're also adding stress and strain to the jobs of warehouse workers.

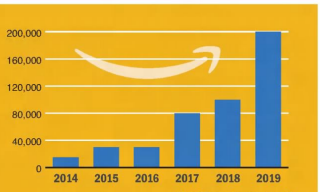
Amazon's robotic transformation has its roots in its $775 million purchase of Massachusetts startup Kiva Systems in 2012.

Amazon's rivals have taken note, helping to fuel an investment boom in warehouse robotics startups that ABI Research says reached $1.5 billion a year in 2015.

Shopify spent $450 million in October to buy Massachusetts-based startup 6 River Systems, while Amazon acquired another robot-maker, Colorado-based Canvas Technology, earlier in the year. Both make robotic carts that are more autonomous than Amazon's current lineup.

Robotic vehicles used in Amazon warehouses

Robot-makers say their machines are taking on the most mundane and physically strenuous tasks. In reality, they are also creating new forms of stress and strain. Amazon is leading this robotic push with more than 200,000 robotic vehicles moving goods through its U.S. warehouses.



Source: Amazon

Matt O'Brien ; Jenni Sohn • AP

StocksRecap

Dow Jones industrials
Close: 28,634.88
1-week change: -10.38 (flat)

Nasdaq composite
Close: 9,020.77
1-week change: 14.15 (0.2%)

WEEKLY PERFORMANCE

52-WEEK HIGH	52-WEEK LOW	INDEX	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	MO	QTR	YTD %CHG	1YR %CHG
28872.80	22638.41	Dow Jones industrial average	28872.80	28376.49	28634.88	-10.38	-0.0	▲	▲	+0.3	+22.2
11226.54	8850.49	Dow Jones transportation	10994.49	10793.64	10911.40	-25.30	-0.2	▲	▲	+0.1	+18.3
882.61	688.44	Dow Jones utilities	879.76	863.67	867.44	-8.78	-1.0	▲	▼	-1.3	+21.9
14003.39	11169.46	NYSE Comp.	14003.39	13843.98	13917.05	-27.10	-0.2	▲	▲	+0.0	+20.7
5900.05	481770	NYSE International	5900.05	5807.97	5845.67	-7.13	-0.1	▲	▲	+0.2	+16.7
8873.63	6139.40	Nasdaq 100	8873.63	8671.92	8793.90	+22.92	+0.3	▲	▲	+0.7	+36.9
9093.43	6457.13	Nasdaq Comp.	9093.43	8909.19	9020.77	+14.15	+0.2	▲	▲	+0.5	+33.9
3258.14	2443.96	S&P 500	3258.14	3212.03	3234.85	-5.17	-0.2	▲	▲	+0.1	+27.8
2073.72	1624.69	S&P MidCap	2073.72	2040.84	2055.67	-7.21	-0.4	▲	▲	-0.4	+22.1
33143.52	25180.08	Wilshire 5000	33143.52	32691.62	32943.33	-33.49	-0.1	▲	▲	+0.2	+26.3
1681.68	1325.18	Russell 2000	1678.14	1648.54	1660.87	-8.16	-0.5	▲	▲	-0.5	+20.3
420.72	331.80	Dow Jones Stoxx 600	420.43	415.01	418.33	-1.41	-0.3	▲	▲	+0.6	+21.8
7727.49	6599.48	FTSE 100	7644.90	7532.38	7622.40	-22.50	-0.3	▲	▲	+1.1	+11.5

Weekly Gainers ($2 or more)

STOCK	LAST	WK CHG	WK %CHG
Savara rs	4.07	+2.34	+135.3
PainThr	9.65	+4.44	+85.2
Sol-Gel	15.65	+6.42	+69.6
BioXcelT	16.71	+6.65	+66.1
FuelCell rs	2.06	+.79	+62.2
Tarena lf	2.48	+.94	+61.0
Synthes hrs	8.83	+3.32	+60.3
ErytechP	7.30	+2.25	+44.6
Protalx rs	3.85	+1.06	+38.0
QuickLg hrs	6.25	+1.67	+36.5

Weekly Losers ($2 or more)

STOCK	LAST	WK CHG	WK %CHG
WaveLtSc	7.60	-8.21	-51.9
RiteAid rs	14.49	-5.81	-28.6
RubiusTh	8.74	-2.81	-24.3
Atreca n	13.55	-3.72	-21.5
NewLink	2.21	-.56	-20.2
Cortexym n	48.50	-11.51	-19.2
MeritoTh	4.07	-.93	-18.6
IGM Bio n	33.29	-7.62	-18.6
VeronaPh	5.30	-1.21	-18.6
XeriaPh	6.07	-1.38	-18.5

Weekly Actives ($1 or more)

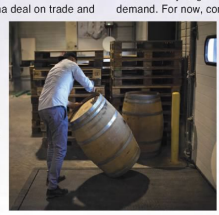
STOCK	VOL (00s)	LAST	WK CHG
FuelCell rs	4104437	2.06	+.79
GenElec	2850268	11.97	+.79
AMD	2294339	48.60	+2.42
Avon	2000670	5.60	-.08
FordM	1605673	9.21	-.15
BkofAm	1528617	34.90	-.45
Apple Inc	1460869	297.43	+7.63
AuroraC	1221910	2.00	+.09
Microsoft	1004519	158.62	-.34
NokiaCp	995270	3.81	+.18

New Year's blues in Europe

Manufacturers in Europe face the not-so-humorous question: Is it a light at the end of the tunnel, or an oncoming train?

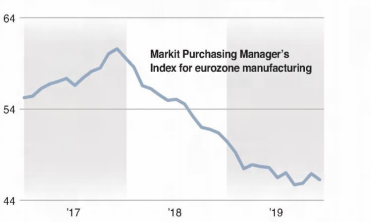
A preliminary U.S.-China deal on trade and Boris Johnson's big win in the British elections ease some uncertainty. But the latest surveys showed a miserable end to the year.

Manufacturing activity fell in December in seven of eight countries covered in the survey, the exception being Austria, which was unchanged. Weakest was Germany, with the Netherlands and Italy hitting 80-month lows. Confidence in the future improved to a six-month high. Consumers were the only bright spot in manufacturing demand. For now, consumers and services are supporting growth in Europe, but for how long?



As IHS Markit chief business economist Chris Williamson put it, "the ability of the wider economy to avoid sliding into a downturn in the face of such a steep manufacturing contraction remains a key challenge as we head into 2020."

Slowing down: Manufacturing activity fell in December in much of the eurozone. The trade war between the U.S. and China and Brexit are creating uncertainty.



Sources: IHS Markit, FactSet

David McHugh; J. Paschke • AP

InterestRates

Money market mutual funds	YIELD	MIN INVEST	PHONE
Taxable—national avg	1.15		
Payden Cash Reserves MMF	1.92	$ 5,000 min	(800) 572-9336
Tax-exempt—national avg	1.07		
Wells Fargo Natl T-F MMF/Premier	1.46	$10 mil.	(888) 222-8222

U.S. BOND INDEXES	FRIDAY YIELD	CHANGE 1WK	CHANGE 1MO	CHANGE 3MO	52-WEEK HIGH	52-WEEK LOW
Broad market Lehman	2.30	-0.04	▼	▲	3.33	2.06
Triple-A corporate Moody's	3.00	0.00	▼	▲	4.02	2.81
Corp. Inv. Grade Lehman	2.83	-0.04	▼	▲	4.24	2.66
U.S. high yield Barclays	5.86	-0.01	▲	▼	7.98	5.43
Global Aggregate Barclays	1.44	-0.02	▬	▲	2.06	1.17
Treasury 10-Yr. TIPS	0.01	-0.13	▼	▼	0.97	0.00

TREASURYS	FRIDAY YIELD	CHANGE 1WK	CHANGE 1MO	CHANGE 3MO	52-WEEK HIGH	52-WEEK LOW
3-month T-Bill	1.51	-0.04	▬	▼	2.45	1.51
6-month T-Bill	1.55	-0.02	▬	▼	2.53	1.53
52-week T-Bill	1.53	0.03	▼	▼	2.60	1.50
2-year T-Note	1.51	-0.06	▼	▲	2.61	1.37
5-year T-Note	1.58	-0.09	▼	▲	2.61	1.32
10-year T-Note	1.78	-0.09	▼	▲	2.78	1.46
30-year T-Bond	2.25	-0.06	▼	▲	3.12	1.94

Money fund data provided by iMoneyNet Inc.

Foreign Exchange

The dollar rose against the British pound, Canadian dollar and Mexican peso. The dollar fell against the Japanese yen and was unchanged against the euro.

MAJORS	CLOSE	CH.	%CH.	6MO.	1YR.
USD per British Pound	1.3077	-.0052	-.40%	1.2576	1.2630
Canadian Dollar	1.2992	+.0002	+.02%	1.3063	1.3478
USD per Euro	1.1166	-.0000	-.00%	1.1278	1.1391
Japanese Yen	108.01	-.54	-.50%	107.87	107.77
Mexican Peso	18.9258	+.0774	+.41%	19.0237	19.5890

EUROPE/AFRICA/MIDDLE EAST					
Israeli Shekel	3.4736	+.0243	+.70%	3.5693	3.7270
Norwegian Krone	8.8276	+.0280	+.32%	8.5350	8.6872
South African Rand	14.2931	+.1893	+1.32%	14.0514	14.2879
Swedish Krona	9.4013	+.0359	+.38%	9.3114	9.0049
Swiss Franc	.9718	-.0005	-.05%	.9873	.9886

ASIA/PACIFIC					
Australian Dollar	1.4372	+.0048	+.33%	1.4216	1.4281
Chinese Yuan	6.9655	+.0012	+.02%	6.8814	6.8719
Hong Kong Dollar	7.7793	-.0103	-.13%	7.7982	7.8305
Indian Rupee	71.777	+.478	+.67%	68.783	70.065
Singapore Dollar	1.3491	+.0014	+.10%	1.3563	1.3642
South Korean Won	1166.13	+7.86	+.67%	1170.11	1125.34
Taiwan Dollar	30.05	+.04	+.13%	31.08	30.90

Commodities

Energy prices climbed as U.S.-Iran tensions escalated. Crude oil and wholesale gasoline prices rose roughly 3% each. Gold and silver prices rose.

FUELS	CLOSE	PVS.	%CH.	%YTD
Crude Oil (bbl)	63.05	61.18	+3.06	+3.3
Ethanol (gal)	1.35	1.36	-1.10	-2.2
Heating Oil (gal)	2.06	2.02	+1.84	+1.7
Natural Gas (mm btu)	2.13	2.12	+0.38	-2.7
Unleaded Gas (gal)	1.75	1.70	+2.62	+3.5

METALS	CLOSE	PVS.	%CH.	%YTD
Gold (oz)	1549.20	1524.50	+1.62	+2.0
Silver (oz)	18.07	17.97	+0.57	+1.4
Platinum (oz)	984.50	978.60	+0.60	+1.4
Copper (lb)	2.80	2.83	-1.22	+0.2

AGRICULTURE	CLOSE	PVS.	%CH.	%YTD
Cattle (lb)	1.25	1.26	-0.83	+0.0
Coffee (lb)	1.26	1.27	-0.59	-2.6
Corn (bu)	3.87	3.92	-1.28	-0.3
Cotton (lb)	0.69	0.69	-0.10	+0.2
Lumber (1,000 bd ft)	403.20	406.70	-0.86	-0.6
Orange Juice (lb)	0.96	0.95	+0.79	-1.7
Soybeans (bu)	9.31	8.44	-1.46	-1.3
Wheat (bu)	5.55	5.60	-1.03	-0.8

(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

Best Stocks One Month

BEST LARGE-CAP STOCKS

COMPANY	TICKER	FRIDAY CLOSE	%CHG 1WK	%CHG 1MO	%RTN 1YR	PE	YLD
BioNTech SE ADS	BNTX	40.05	22.9	**64.3**	0.0	...	...
Tesla Inc	TSLA	443.01	2.9	**31.9**	25.7	dd	...
Wstn Digital	WDC	64.61	4.8	**31.6**	75.7	24	3.1
Apache Corp	APA	25.69	-1.6	**28.5**	1.3	16	3.9
Luckin Coffee Inc	LK	36.72	0.8	**23.7**	0.0	...	...
Adv Micro Dev	AMD	48.60	5.2	**22.6**	148.4	cc	...
Sasol Ltd	SSL	21.53	-1.7	**21.2**	-24.8	...	6.5
Anglogold Ashanti	AU	22.65	3.2	**20.7**	78.6	...	...
Gerdau SA	GGB	4.96	2.9	**18.7**	32.2	...	0.4
Sarepta Thera	SRPT	129.78	0.0	**18.6**	18.2	dd	...
Huazhu Group ADS	HTHT	40.77	1.8	**18.4**	40.0	33	0.8
Autohome Inc	ATHM	82.89	1.7	**17.9**	2.3	5	...
Concho Resources	CXO	90.20	5.7	**17.9**	-14.3	14	0.6
Energy Transfer L.P.	ET	13.55	4.3	**17.8**	6.4	16	9.0
IAC InterActive	IAC	253.91	0.6	**17.6**	36.1	56	0.5

BEST MID-CAP STOCKS

COMPANY	TICKER	FRIDAY CLOSE	%CHG 1WK	%CHG 1MO	%RTN 1YR	PE	YLD
Intra-Cellular Thea	ITCI	31.17	-11.5	**205.6**	201.2	dd	...
Synthorx Inc	THOR	69.35	-2.3	**177.1**	302.1	dd	...
Forty Seven Inc	FTSV	38.35	-12.9	**165.6**	150.5	dd	...
Axsome Therapeutics	AXSM	94.69	-7.1	**108.4**	3565.3	dd	...
Seadrill Ltd	SDRL	2.45	8.4	**107.6**	-74.0	dd	...
AQuile Inc	ARQL	19.97	-0.4	**106.6**	620.6	dd	...
Cortexyme Inc	CRTX	48.50	-19.2	**71.3**	0.0	dd	...
Virgin Galactic Hldg	SPCE	11.81	2.2	**62.7**	15.5	...	...
Antero Midstream Cp	AM	7.14	-3.4	**59.0**	-22.4	...	6.3
TG Therapeutics	TGTX	10.83	-0.5	**52.1**	170.7	dd	...
Renewable Energy Grp	REGI	28.82	5.9	**51.7**	4.9	dd	...
SpringWorks Therap	SWTX	36.99	-4.0	**50.9**	0.0	dd	...
Valaris plc ADS	VAL	7.42	26.6	**49.6**	-53.7	...	...
Principia Biopharma	PRNB	55.42	-7.2	**48.2**	100.0	...	...
DBV Technologies SA	DBVT	11.55	6.9	**47.1**	66.7	...	...

BEST SMALL-CAP STOCKS

COMPANY	TICKER	FRIDAY CLOSE	%CHG 1WK	%CHG 1MO	%RTN 1YR	PE	YLD
Pain Therapeutics	SAVA	9.65	85.2	**439.1**	511.8	dd	...
FuelCell Energy	FCEL	2.06	62.2	**264.6**	-62.0	...	...
Savara Inc	SVRA	4.07	135.3	**263.4**	-40.8	dd	...
LMP Automotive Hldgs	LMPX	19.27	-0.9	**235.1**	0.0	...	...
Tarena Intl Inc	TEDU	2.48	61.0	**224.2**	-68.9	dd	11.3
Neoleukin Therapeut	NLTX	10.85	-10.9	**167.2**	470.4	dd	...
Mirum Pharmaceut	MIRM	23.03	-11.1	**165.3**	0.0	...	...
NantKwest Inc	NK	4.04	8.0	**155.7**	226.7	...	...
BioXcel Therapeut	BTAI	16.71	66.1	**153.2**	278.5	dd	...
LAIX Inc	LAIX	5.61	13.8	**114.9**	-35.9	51	...
Aptose Biosciences	APTO	5.45	1.9	**112.9**	182.7	dd	...
Sol-Gel Technolog	SLGL	15.65	69.6	**87.2**	0.0	...	...
Dermira Inc	DERM	14.65	0.7	**85.9**	110.9	dd	...
IVERIC bio	ISEE	8.14	5.1	**85.0**	615.0	4	...
Rite Aid Corp	RAD	14.49	-28.6	**74.8**	9.2	...	...

InsiderQ&A

Deciding what to ban at YouTube

Matt Halprin
Global Head of Trust and Safety YouTube

Matt Halprin, the global head of trust and safety for YouTube, has a tough job: He oversees the teams that decide what is allowed and what should be prohibited on YouTube, the Google-owned video streaming service that allows people around the world to upload their creations. The Associated Press spoke recently with Halprin about how his team works.

How does your team operate?

They're separated into policy development and policy incubation. Policy development starts with the highest level of principles: We are an open platform. We do have a bias to allow freedom of expression on our platform and only remove content that we think is egregious and could cause real harm. We want to be a place where a variety of perspectives can be heard, and sometimes that even means things that people disagree with or are even offended by.

We kicked off a process a couple of years ago to essentially re-review all of our policies. We look at which policies seem to be most out of kilter with what our enforcement teams are telling us, the gray area cases or which policies are regulators talking about or the press asking about. As an example, in Q2 (June) we relaunched our hate speech policy.

What does the process look like to make or change a policy?

The team first does the research and puts together the framework and essentially a proposal. Once it gets through me, then we bring in our cross-functional partners and people on public policy and public relations, in product, in legal. We often get sent back to the drawing board on a few issues. Then we go to an executive steering review, which is chaired by our chief product officer. Finally, the fourth and final step is the top executives. We have these meetings every single week.

As we go through this process, these guys are watching a ton of video examples.

How do you think about balancing free expression with safety?

That is probably the toughest thing that we do. There is not a right answer. Not all of us agree. One person will think that, "Hey, we should have more civility. We shouldn't let something like this come up." And another person will say, "Yeah, but if you get rid of that uncivil comment, you lose some really valuable, you know, free expression or political discourse."

And so we have seriously huge debates about this. Sometimes we think that if we are not criticized by all sides for the policy, we've probably done something wrong. If you're only upsetting one side, then you probably haven't gotten it right.

How do you ensure that things aren't slipping through the cracks when it comes to enforcement?

We've always had community guidelines and that's what defines our rules. We measure how much exposure occurs on content that we think goes against the line. And that's going down. For every workflow, for every policy, I get a measure of how accurate our reviewers have been regularly.

Interviewed by Rachel Lerman. Edited for clarity and length.

AP

FILE / AP

The Aramco refinery at Ras Tannura, Saudi Arabia. The price of oil surged Friday as global investors were gripped with uncertainty over the potential repercussions and any retaliation, after the United States killed Iran's top general Qassem Soleimani.

Deadly attack by U.S. on Iranian general rattles energy market

By CARLO PIOVANO
Associated Press

LONDON — Crude prices on Friday had the largest one-day spike since a September attack on the world's largest oil processing facility in Saudi Arabia after the U.S. killed Iran's top general in a drone strike.

If sustained, the rise in oil prices could push the cost of gasoline, heating fuel and electricity higher, potentially dragging on the global economy at a time when it is already slowing.

The international benchmark for crude oil at one point jumped almost 4 percent per barrel in London. U.S. crude prices increased about the same.

The timing of escalating tensions in the Middle East could be economically troublesome worldwide, and particularly for the U.S. and China, which are expected to sign off on a "Phase 1" trade deal within weeks. The agreement could energize the industrial sectors of both economies. The industrial sector accounts for the largest share of energy consumption, meaning that any sustained increase in prices could dampen the economic effect of a deal.

Another sector that consumes vast amounts of energy, the airline industry, was hit immediately Friday, with shares of Lufthansa in Germany, and also Air France, falling between 7 percent and 8 percent. American Airlines slid 4 percent.

Most international affairs experts anticipate Iranian retaliation after Gen. Qassem Soleimani, head of Iran's elite Quds Force, was killed early Friday in an air attack at the Baghdad international airport.

Iran could retaliate with cyber attacks or, as it did last week, target U.S. installations in the Middle East. Angered by deadly airstrikes targeting an Iran-backed militia, dozens of Iraqi Shiite militiamen and their supporters broke into the U.S. Embassy compound in Baghdad last week in one of the worst attacks on the embassy in recent memory.

But on the southern border of Iran lies the Strait of Hormuz, the world's most important oil chokepoint, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. About 20 percent of crude traded worldwide must pass through this shipping lane, which is only 2 miles wide. Tankers have come under attack this year in the strait and Iran maintains a heavy presence.

"Revenge will come, maybe not overnight, but it will come and until then we need to increase the geopolitical risk premium," Olivier Jakob, head of consultancy Petromatrix, said in a note to investors.

The U.S. directly blamed Iran for a Sept. 16 attack by Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi on the Saudi facility. Iran denies it was involved.

The attack illustrated how big an impact disruptions to supplies can have on the market. The strike briefly took out about half of the supplies from the world's largest oil exporter.

Launching attacks that can't be easily linked back to Iran limits the chances of direct retaliation.

However, Iran has directly targeted tankers. This year it seized a British-flagged tanker, the Stena Impero, on July 19 in the Strait of Hormuz. And it has shot down a U.S. military drone.

"The factors in the market pushing oil prices higher are based on the view that Iranian authorities collectively, or the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, independently, could potentially take retaliatory actions that increase the likelihood of supply disruption in the Middle East,"said Edward Morse, an analyst with Citi. "Hypothetical scenarios of retaliatory actions might include targeted attacks on oil facilities in the Gulf area, whether in Iraq where there are Western/American firms investing in new production, or elsewhere; attacks on pipeline oil flows or shipping through either the Strait of Hormuz or the Red Sea; or even surrogate attacks from Lebanon on Israel or from Yemen on Gulf countries, not necessarily targeting oil, but resulting in retaliatory actions on Iran."

Morse said international benchmark crude, which has been hovering around $60 per barrel all summer, could push past $70 "in short order."

About 80 percent of the crude oil that travels through the Strait of Hormuz goes to countries in Asia, including China, Japan, India and South Korea.

But the rise in the global price of oil will likely have a wider effect, particularly in oil-importing countries with big manufacturing sectors like Germany. Its stock market fared worst on Friday, falling 1.2 percent.

In the longer term, the rise in crude oil prices could be limited by the fact that the energy market is flush with oil while demand has softened as major economies have slowed.

Yet the OPEC cartel and its key ally Russia agreed last month to cut their oil production. On top of production cuts, the U.S. has put into place crippling sanctions on oil exports from two OPEC members, Venezuela and Iran.

And energy consumption continues to rise steadily. In September, the EIA projected that world energy consumption will grow by nearly 50 percent between 2018 and 2050.

Though this is an era of ample oil supply, there is a push to turn off the spigots by producing countries. Any external supply pressure could jolt the energy complex, particularly if economic activity increases.

Hayne Palmour IV / San Diego Union-Tribune / TNS

After a bruising year, U.S. department stores and apparel retailers will seek to bounce back in 2020 by closing more locations, shrinking their shops and adding more experiences to attract customers.

For the worst-performing industry of 2019, the only way out is to shrink

By JORDYN HOLMAN
Bloomberg News

NEW YORK — After a bruising year, U.S. department stores and apparel retailers will seek to bounce back in 2020 by closing more locations, shrinking their shops and adding more experiences to attract customers – like old-fashioned tailoring and trendy in-store cafes.

In 2019, it was clear that both categories lost ground as consumers continued their steady migration to Amazon and other competitors.

While traditional retailers like Macy's and Gap have invested in e-commerce and a better in-store experience, it's in doubt whether that will be enough to restore their former stature.

Department stores were the worst sector on the S&P 500 this year, and Macy's and Gap, along with Kohl's, L Brands and Nordstrom, were among the poorest-performing individual stocks in the index.

Revenue has flattened for many companies, with department stores and apparel chains losing market share to online and discount retailers like Ross Stores and TJX Cos., which owns Marshalls and TJ Maxx.

Meanwhile the retail apocalypse has dragged on. More than 7,600 stores closed in 2019 through October, a record for that point in the year, according to Credit Suisse. And the outlook for 2020 doesn't look any brighter, the firm said.

The sector's woes are particularly troubling given the strength of the American consumer: If these retailers can't capture growth amid higher spending, the outlook could get darker if an economic slowdown materializes.

According to analysts, these will be the most important trends to follow in 2020:

Closing shop

David Swartz, an analyst for Morningstar Investment Service, said department stores have to scale down their store fleets. Macy's, for example, doesn't need hundreds of large stores – especially in lower-tier malls that are at risk of closing. J.C. Penney faces the same challenge, he said.

Macy's has about 640 namesake stores and has been gradually closing locations since 2016. J.C. Penney has about 850 stores in the U.S., and it closed a handful of them in 2019, including the Benton Township location at The Orchards Mall.

"The chains like those two that have large numbers of very large stores are going to have to make decisions soon before their margins erode even more than they already have," he said. "I think we're going to see some major changes next year."

The sector hasn't sat well with investors. The S&P 500 department stores index dropped close to 30 percent in 2019, the biggest decline among all S&P 500 industry indices.

Gap, meanwhile, plans to shut about 230 stores as it overhauls its footprint and focuses more its Old Navy and Athleta brands. Preppy apparel retailer Abercrombie & Fitch Co. is also closing flagship stores.

Even if stores don't close, they may shrink, according to Sucharita Kodali, an analyst at Forrester Research. As shoppers buy more online, there's less need for massive selling spaces. Lord & Taylor, for instance, is reviewing the size of its locations and plans to debut new, more compact formats.

Giving experiences

For the department stores looking to reduce inventory, creating a memorable experience is key to drawing in shoppers. Part of this is reorganizing the apparel spaces.

"If they look like a Ross, people will just go to Ross," Swartz said. "The clothes are not so different so they have to provide a different kind of experience."

More chains might follow the Nordstrom Local model, where the focus is tailoring, returns and helping customers find a specific look, rather than selling items.

Restaurants could take more prominence, said Gabriella Santaniello, founder of retail consulting firm A Line Partners. Neiman Marcus and Nordstrom have repositioned their bars and cafes to be situated closer to the merchandising area, thus "blurring the lines in retail," she said.

Kohl's, meanwhile, has been taking Amazon returns – a bid to draw in consumers who might stay for a while and pick up other items.

What's old is new

Resale will also push retailers in new directions. The second-hand apparel market is expected to grow to $32 billion in 2020, according to GlobalData research for online thrift store ThredUp. That's up from $28 billion in 2019.

"We're going to continue the resale trend," Santaniello said. "It's legitimately working its way into the way we shop for a lot of products. Retailers are just going to have to accommodate."

Apparel companies may be forced to improve their selection – or join the resellers, she said. Expect more chains to form partnerships like the ones J.C. Penney and Macy's announced in August with ThredUp.

Losing credit

Retailers, particularly department stores, could also experience a sharper decline in income from store credit cards as a result of new accounting regulations, according to Morgan Stanley. Credit income is the profit share retailers receive from their partner financial institutions.

Current expected credit losses, or CECL, went into effect on Wednesday. Department stores will be impacted by this change more than the market realizes, Morgan Stanley said in a note to clients, because their reliance on credit income has ramped up as operating income continues to erode.

"We expect Macy's could see the greatest potential hit from any decline in credit income," Morgan Stanley said. Target, on the other hand, is most sheltered.

FEES

From page B4

clearly disclosed when customers sign up for service."

AT&T, owner of DirecTV and U-verse, declined to comment for this story. But a spokesman pointed to a Dec. 19 blog entry on AT&T's website blaming Congress for allowing broadcast companies to increase retransmission fees charged to cable and satellite providers from $200 million in 2006 to $11.7 billion in 2019 – an increase of more than 5,000 percent for content available for free through an antenna.

Consumer Reports fought for the law as part of a campaign it called "What the Fee?!" aimed at requiring industries to disclose surprise fees and encouraging consumers to fight back.

Consumers spend an average $450 a year in extra fees imposed by TV and internet providers, a report estimated in October.

While some add-ons are taxes imposed by local, state and federal governments passed onto consumers, others are created by the providers "for things that are nothing more than a cost of doing business," the October report stated.

Examples include the so-called Broadcast TV Fee, Regional Sports Fee, and Set-Top Box Fee, the report said. Combined, the company-imposed fees amount to a 24 percent surcharge on top of the advertised price, the report said.

Consumer Reports estimated the fees could be generating as much as $28 billion a year for cable companies.

The new law wasn't a grand slam for consumers and Consumer Reports. The House version required disclosure of add-on fees before consumers sign up. But the version passed by the Senate shifts the disclosure requirement to within 24 hours after sign-up, according to the pay-TV industry watchdog site FierceVideo.com.

Also, the law only applies to pay-TV providers, and not internet service providers (ISPs). Consumer Reports' report points out that while TV consumers can fight back by "cutting the cord" and relying on over-the-air and streaming apps, "hidden fees are starting to creep into 'internet only' service packages as well."

RETAIL

From page B4

the list of retailers opening on the holiday grew with Target, Macy's, Best Buy, Kohl's, Sears, Kmart and other big-box retailers ringing up big sales. It took time, but it worked.

This year, consumers spent $4.2 billion on Thanksgiving, a record high, up 14.5 percent from last year, according to Adobe.

Old is new

More recently, thrift-store shopping and resale sites such as PoshMark, The RealReal and ThredUp came into vogue, quenching a thirst for discounted, used luxury designer goods from Chanel, Louis Vuitton and Gucci.

Millennials also are driving growth in this sustainability trend. Shoppers began renting clothes and high-end accessories and signing up in droves for monthly subscription services for everything from food to fashions.

Dawn of delivery

Early in the decade, DoorDash and Instacart began same-day grocery delivery. Then Shipt popped up and got gobbled up by Target in 2017.

Now, most retailers, including Walmart, offer this service. But American consumers have been slow to embrace online grocery delivery, which captures only 3 percent of spending online, according to a 2019 report by Bain & Company and Google.

But guess who dominates this area? Amazon. It has a market-leading share of online grocery purchases, estimated to be as high as to 38 percent.

The Great Retail Apocalypse is far from over, as Amazon turns its attention to the robust grocery business in the next decade.

How will we pick a melon in 2029? Only time will tell.

hp SPORTS

Don Campbell / HP staff See more photos: heraldpalladium.mycapture.com

Benton Harbor's Quindarius Davis shoots while under pressure from St. Joseph's Brennen Kerns during the first half of Friday night's game.

Breaking free

Benton Harbor pulls away in fourth to beat pesky St. Joseph

By BEN SANDERS
HP Sports Editor

ST. JOSEPH — St. Joseph slowed Benton Harbor down for three quarters in Friday's boys basketball game, but the Tigers ran away in the fourth.

Benton Harbor 63, St. Joseph 41

Benton Harbor pulled away for a 63-41 victory, outscoring the Bears 27-9 in the final period.

"St. Joe always does a good job of being patient on offense, which caused us to have a low-scoring game," Benton Harbor coach Corey Sterling said. "I was proud of the way we responded in the fourth.

"I'm glad (St. Joe) plays this type of style. You never know what you might see on the road to (the state finals). You're going to have tall teams, small teams, slow-down ball, fast ball. We were able to finally adapt to the style."

Benton Harbor (6-0) led 12-4 after one

See **TIGERS**, page C3

Don Campbell / HP staff

St. Joseph's Conner Wright tries to work his way past Benton Harbor's Trucel Singleton during the first half of Friday night's game.

Bears give safety Jackson 4-year, $58.4M extension

By COLLEEN KANE
Chicago Tribune (TNS)

CHICAGO — Bears general manager Ryan Pace wasted little time this offseason locking down a key piece of the defense's future.

The Bears and safety Eddie Jackson agreed to a four-year contract extension, his agency tweeted Friday. SportsTrust Advisors wrote that the contract is for $58.4 million, with $33 million guaranteed. Making an average of $14.6 million, Jackson, 27, will be the highest-paid safety in the NFL.

The Bears did not immediately announce the extension.

Through three seasons with the Bears, Jackson, a 2017 fourth-round draft pick, has 184 tackles, 10 interceptions, 26 passes defensed, five defensive touchdowns, four forced fumbles, five fumble recoveries and two sacks.

Drafting Jackson is one of Pace's best moves during his five seasons as general manager.

Jackson broke his leg in October of his senior season at Alabama, and he slipped to No. 112 in the draft. But he seized a starting spot for the Bears by his rookie season opener. And a year to the day after he broke his leg, he became the first player in NFL history with multiple defensive touchdowns of 75 yards or more in the same game, with a 75-yard fumble return and a 76-yard interception return against the Panthers.

In his second season in 2018, Jackson had a career-high six interceptions and three touchdowns and was named an All-Pro.

His production was down in 2019, in part because offenses tried to stay away from his play-making abilities, but he still was named to his second straight Pro Bowl. He had two interceptions — both on desperation throws at the end of games against the Lions and Vikings

See **JACKSON**, page C4

Sources: Pistons talking to Hawks about possible Drummond trade

By VINCE ELLIS and CHRIS THOMAS
Detroit Free Press (TNS)

The Detroit Pistons are in talks about a trade that would send star center Andre Drummond to the Atlanta Hawks, according to multiple persons with knowledge of the situation.

The potential deal would include the Pistons receiving an expiring contract and a protected 2020 first-round pick, said the sources, who spoke to the Free Press on condition of anonymity.

The sources said the deal was not imminent. The Pistons are talking to several teams about Drummond.

ESPN insider Adrian Wojnarowski was the first to report the trade talks.

Drummond has approached this season as a contract year. He has a $28 million player option for next season, which means he could test free agency and be one of the most sought-after big men in the 2020 free-agent cycle.

Drummond is in his eighth season with the Pistons after being drafted with the ninth overall pick in 2012.

The two-time All-Star is averaging a career-high 17.6 points and a league-leading 15.8 rebounds per game this season.

The trade talks come a day after Pistons owner Tom Gores told the Free Press he'd be willing to allow young players to play meaningful minutes now, even if it meant missing the playoffs in the short term.

The Pistons entered Friday with a 12-23 record and 12th in the Eastern Conference standings, three and a half games out of the eighth and final playoff spot.

Bees defense stings rival

Strong fourth quarter propels Bridgman boys past River Valley

By MAXWELL HARDEN
HP Sports Writer

BRIDGMAN — Bridgman boys basketball coach Mike Miller was impressed with his team's defensive performance following Friday's game against rival River Valley.

Bridgman 47, River Valley 36

The Bees outscored the Mustangs 18-4 in the fourth quarter to earn a 47-36 win.

"I was really proud of the kids," Bridgman coach Mike Miller said. "We had a horrible offensive first half; We shot poorly and made a lot of unforced errors. Coach (Justin) Hahaj made a defensive adjustment for us early in the third quarter and that made a big difference.

"Nate Necas gave us a big spark off the bench tonight."

Trailing 32-29 entering the fourth quarter, the Bees turned up the defensive intensity and forced turnovers that led to easy scoring opportunities. After taking a 38-33 lead following a Jayce Warren 3-pointer midway through the fourth quarter, the Bees opted to possess the ball to limit River Valley's offensive chances.

The Mustangs were forced to foul late, which put Bridgman in the bonus. The Bees converted 11 of 14 free throws in the fourth quarter and had a 21-2 edge in free throw attempts over River Valley.

"I thought we competed," River Valley coach Jason Heckathorn said. "We didn't execute down the stretch. I thought our effort was enough to keep us in the game. We were in a position to win but couldn't finish.

"Give Bridgman credit, they're a strong team."

Luke Blesy led Bridgman with 11 points while Hunter Adams and Henry Branch scored 10 points apiece. Nate Necas scored two points but his defensive impact on the game far exceeded the box score.

See **BEES**, page C3

Photo provided / David Johnson

River Valley's Matthew Schmidt (right) defends against Bridgman's Jackson Schmaltz during Friday's game.

SUPER BOWL SEPARATION

Elite NFL teams take game to another level as regular season ends, playoffs begin

By BARRY WILNER
AP Pro Football Writer

If there's one word to define the 2019 NFL season, it might be separation.

With the exception of the winner of the NFC East, the division champions generally were on another level from their colleagues. Indeed, the Ravens, Patriots, Chiefs, Saints, 49ers and Seahawks were on a different level from most of their opponents leaguewide.

And the Eagles' closing drive to the NFC East title was remarkable.

The NFL likes to brag about competitive balance, but in 2019 there were so many mediocre or worse teams that very little was symmetrical. Hopefully the playoffs will provide a spark, with all of those clubs that created the separation going head to head.

Without question, the Ravens were the team of the year. In mid-2018, coach John Harbaugh turned to untested rookie Lamar Jackson. It would be a massive understatement to say it was the correct choice.

Jackson has been beyond sensational as a passer and runner, bringing a dimension that some opponents — even the better ones — couldn't handle.

"He is a good decision maker," says 49ers star cornerback Richard Sherman. "He knows angles, he knows leverage, he knows when to get down, he knows when to stay up, he knows when to cut back, he knows when to keep it, he knows when to bounce outside."

Baltimore fears no one, has perhaps the best secondary in football, and the NFL's best kicker, Justin Tucker.

The AFC generally has been the weaker conference all season, but, as always the Patriots can't be dismissed and the Chiefs hit their stride in December to steal the No. 2 seed from New England.

Tom Brady is 42 and hasn't looked like a Hall of Fame quarterback at times, but New England still won an 11th successive AFC East title and is anchored by a stingy defense. The Patriots led the league in turnover differential by a wide margin. If Brady finds someone other than reliables Julian Edelman and James White to throw to, the Patriots can be formidable despite playing a wild-card game for the first time in a decade.

The Chiefs missed last season's Super Bowl mainly because of their leaky D. Patrick Mahomes and company on offense couldn't make up for that. Now, under new coordinator Steve Spagnuolo, the defense has grown into something that just might boost KC into the big game.

Buffalo is another contender not likely to back down against anybody, a team on the rise whose time might not yet be here.

Coach Sean McDermott noted: "We've made a lot of progress to get us to where we are throughout the course of one season. And the players have every week, they've given it their all, and I'm extremely appreciative of that, but we still have work to do. ... This is a young football team, we'll continue to grow..."

Despite winning yet another AFC South title, it's difficult to have confidence in Houston going far in the postseason. Indeed, the Texans are 3-5 in the playoffs and never have been to a conference championship game. They host the Bills on wild-card weekend.

Thanks in part to Houston sitting many key players in the season finale, the Titans scored the final wild-card slot. Coach Mike Vrabel was a star linebacker for Bill Belichick in New England, and that's where he will take his Titans.

Choosing a favorite in the stronger NFC is pretty much impossible. Sure, San Francisco is the top seed, but all of the contenders are dangerous on the road, too.

New Orleans carries perhaps the biggest motivator into January — that brutal officiating non-call in the NFC title game that basically cost them a trip to the Super Bowl. In Drew Brees to Michael Thomas, the Saints have a modern-day Montana-Rice passing combination, and the rest of the offense (and defense) is anything but shoddy.

San Francisco came off a 4-12 record to be the NFL 2019's last unbeaten team. It's front four on defense can dominate games, as can tight end George Kittle. The Niners usually win the tight games, as they did in beating the Seahawks in the season finale to clinch the NFC West.

Only those who wear Cheeseheads want to go to Lambeau Field in January, especially with the Packers developing an aggressive and punishing defense. Plus, star QB Aaron Rodgers has a worthy complement in running back Aaron Jones.

Seattle's late-season injury woes leave Pete Carroll's group with an extra large challenge. No team, however, has been more resilient this season.

Well, maybe Philadelphia has been. Ravaged by injuries that probably should have made the Eagles into also-rans, they instead ran off four straight victories to grab the NFC East from Dallas. Now, perhaps fittingly, they host the Seahawks.

Minnesota, like Houston, has that history of postseason stumbles. It would be much easier to take the Vikings seriously if they were in the AFC. Instead, they get a trip to New Orleans.

WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS

All times EST

SATURDAY, JAN. 4

Buffalo at Houston, 4:35 p.m. (ESPN/ABC)

The Bills haven't won a playoff game in 24 years. Buffalo returns to the playoffs after making its first appearance in 18 years when it earned a wild card in 2017. AFC South champion Houston is making its third playoff appearance in five years.

Tennessee at New England, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)

The Titans lost their last playoff game, in the 2017 divisional round, to AFC East champion New England in Foxboro. After a shocking upset loss to division rival Miami during the final game of the regular season, the defending Super Bowl champion Patriots are now forced to play in the wild-card round for the first time since 2009.

SUNDAY, JAN. 5

Minnesota at New Orleans, 1:05 p.m. (FOX)

The Vikings shocked the Saints the last time these two faced off in the playoffs with one of the most memorable plays of the 2017 season. Case Keenum connected with Stefon Diggs for a 61-yard touchdown pass with 10 seconds left to give the Vikings the 29-24 divisional-round win.

Seattle at Philadelphia, 4:40 p.m. (NBC)

The Seahawks beat the eventual NFC East champion Eagles 17-9 during Week 12 in Philadelphia. Last season, Seattle lost to then NFC East champion Dallas in the wild-card round, while the Eagles lost to the Saints in the divisional round.

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

Philadelphia, Seattle or Minnesota at San Francisco, 4:35 p.m. (NBC)

Houston, Buffalo or Tennessee at Baltimore, 8:15 p.m (CBS)

SUNDAY, JAN. 12

New England, Houston or Buffalo at Kansas City, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)

New Orleans, Philadelphia or Seattle at Green Bay, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

SUNDAY, JAN. 19

AFC, 3:05 p.m. (CBS)
NFC, 6:40 p.m. (FOX)

SUPER BOWL

SUNDAY, FEB. 2

At Miami Gardens, Fla. AFC champion vs. NFC champion, 6:30 p.m. (Fox)

AP CONTENT BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

No. 1 BALTIMORE RAVENS (14-2)
Postseason record: 15-9

- Ravens are 2-0 in Super Bowls. Won last NFL title in 2012, as a wild-card team.
- Reached playoffs in eight of coach John Harbaugh's 12 seasons.
- Seeking first playoff win since 2014 wild-card game against Pittsburgh.
- Second-year quarterback Lamar Jackson has been sensational this season.

No. 2 KANSAS CITY CHIEFS (12-4)
Postseason record: 10-19

- Chiefs are 1-1 in Super Bowls, 1969 season as member of AFL.
- Kansas City lost first Super Bowl to Green Bay.
- Coach Andy Reid is in 21st NFL season, lost only Super Bowl with Philadelphia in 2004 season.
- QB Patrick Mahomes was 2018 NFL MVP in second pro season.
- Chiefs have won four straight AFC West titles.
- Travis Kelce is first tight end with four straight 1,000-yard receiving seasons.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

No. 1 SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS (13-3)
Postseason record: 31-21

- 49ers are 5-1 in Super Bowls, winning their first five appearances. Lost in 2012 to Baltimore.
- Pulled off the NFL's biggest turnaround in the past year, going from 4-12 in 2018 to the NFC West title and the NFC's top playoff seed.
- First postseason appearance since 2013 loss at Seattle in NFC championship game.
- Joined NFL in 1950, won first title in 1981 season.
- Cornerback and team leader Richard Sherman won 2013 championship with Seahawks.

No. 2 GREEN BAY PACKERS (13-3)
Postseason record: 34-22

- Packers are 4-1 in Super Bowls, winning its first two under coach Vince Lombardi.
- Packers didn't make playoffs in 2018.
- First-year coach Matt LaFleur led them to NFC North title this year.
- Quarterback Aaron Rodgers helped Packers win Super Bowl for 2010 season.
- Rodgers took Packers to eight straight postseasons, from 2009 to 2016.

NFL TV ratings remain robust; up for second straight year

By JOE REEDY
AP Sports Writer

The NFL goes into the playoffs with its regular-season ratings having gone up for the second straight year, the first time the league has seen back-to-back increases since 2010.

The league's 100th season was its most viewed in four years as games averaged 16.5 million viewers on television. That is a 5% increase over 2018, according to Nielsen.

Neal Pilson, the former president of CBS Sports who now runs his own sports television consulting company, attributes the continued increases to the emergence of younger players as well as the league becoming year-around programming.

"The league is quite fortunate with young players who have had tremendous publicity in college doing quite well. They've also had some good games and have largely avoided off-field controversy," he said. "The NFL has also learned from the NBA's playbook of staying on the sports page and being relevant during the offseason with the combine and draft keeping them on the front pages for several months."

The NFL said in a release that female viewers were up 5% over last season and that women have accounted for at least 35% of the audience for each of the past three years.

Digital streaming continues to see significant gains with a 51% jump. The league reported an average of 487,000 online viewers via different packages.

One constant is that Dallas continues to be a big draw. The Cowboys had three of the five most-watched games and they had the top game on every package except "Monday Night Football."

Dallas' Thanksgiving Day game against Buffalo on CBS was the top game at 32.6 million.

ESPN's "Monday Night Football" once again saw the biggest gains with an 8% increase for the second straight year. The 17-game package over 16 weeks averaged 12.57 million viewers.

The most-watched Monday night game was Seattle's overtime win over San Francisco on Nov. 11 (16.73 million). That was also the highest viewership for a Monday night game since Dallas vs. Detroit in 2016.

In brief

U-M center Ruiz to enter NFL draft

ANN ARBOR (AP) — Michigan center Cesar Ruiz says he's forgoing his senior season and entering the NFL draft.

Ruiz announced his intentions in a statement on social media Friday. Ruiz was named to the watch list for the 2019 Rimington Trophy and Outland Trophy.

No. 17 Michigan finished its season with a loss to No. 9 Alabama in the Citrus Bowl on Wednesday.

U-M's Livers uncertain for Sunday game

ANN ARBOR (AP) — Michigan coach Juwan Howard said forward Isaiah Livers is day to day, and it remains unclear if he'll be able to play Sunday against Michigan State.

Livers missed Michigan's most recent game with a left groin injury.

Howard said Friday he's not sure if Livers will play this weekend.

Livers is averaging 13.6 points per game and shooting 50% from 3-point range.

Airwaves

Television today

10:00 a.m. (NBCSports) **Premiership Rugby** Gloucester Rugby vs Bath Rugby. (Live)
11:30 a.m. (ESPN) **College Football** Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl — Southern Mississippi vs Tulane. (Live) 🇨🇨
12:00 p.m. 17 (22.2) 32 **College Basketball** Indiana at Maryland. (Live) 🎧 🇨🇨
(ESPN2) **College Basketball** Oklahoma State at Texas Tech. (Live)
(FoxDetroit) **College Basketball** Wake Forest at Pittsburgh. (Live)
(FS1) **College Basketball** Creighton at Butler. (Live) 🇨🇨
1:00 p.m. 2 3 22 **College Basketball** Georgia at Memphis. (Live) 🎧 🇨🇨
5 8 16 **High School Football** All-American Bowl. (Live) 🎧 🇨🇨
2:00 p.m. 17 (22.2) 32 **College Basketball** Villanova at Marquette. (Live) 🎧 🇨🇨
(Bigten) **College Basketball** Iowa vs Penn State. (Live) 🇨🇨
(ESPN2) **College Basketball** Florida State at Louisville. (Live)
(FoxDetroit) **College Basketball** Virginia Tech at Virginia. (Live)
(FS1) **College Basketball** Providence at DePaul. (Live) 🇨🇨
4:00 p.m. 5 8 16 **PGA Tour Golf** Sentry Tournament of Champions, Third Round. (Live)
(Bigten) **Women's College Basketball** Penn State at Wisconsin. (Live) 🇨🇨
(ESPN2) **College Basketball** Notre Dame at Syracuse. (Live)
4:35 p.m. 7 13 41 57 (ESPN) **NFL Football** Buffalo Bills at Houston Texans. (Live) 🎧
5:00 p.m. (FoxDetroit) **Women's College Basketball** Baylor at Oklahoma. (Live)
6:00 p.m. (Bigten) **Women's College Basketball** Minnesota at Nebraska. (Live) 🇨🇨
(ESPN2) **College Basketball** Alabama at Florida. (Live)
(Golf) **PGA Tour Golf** Sentry Tournament of Champions, Third Round. (Live)
8:00 p.m. 2 3 22 **NFL Football** Tennessee Titans at New England Patriots. (Live) 🎧
50 **AHL Hockey** Iowa Wild at Chicago Wolves. (Live)
(ESPN) **College Basketball** Duke at Miami. (Live)
(ESPN2) **College Basketball** Texas at Baylor. (Live)
(NBCSCH) **NBA Basketball** Boston Celtics at Chicago Bulls. (Live)
8:30 p.m. (FoxDetroit) **NBA Basketball** Detroit Pistons at Golden State Warriors. (Live)
10:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Basketball** Pepperdine at Gonzaga. (Live)
(NBCSports) **Motorcycle Racing** Monster Energy Supercross: Anaheim. (Live)

Sunday

10:00 a.m. (NBCSports) **Premiership Rugby** Wasps vs Northampton Saints. (Live)
12:00 p.m. (Bigten) **Women's College Basketball** Rutgers at Purdue. (Live) 🇨🇨
(ESPN2) **Women's College Basketball** Michigan State at Michigan. (Live)
(NBCSports) **College Basketball** VCU at George Mason. (Live)
12:30 p.m. (NBCSCH) **NHL Hockey** San Jose Sharks at Washington Capitals. (Live)
1:00 p.m. 17 (22.2) 32 **NFL Football** Minnesota Vikings at New Orleans Saints. (Live) 🎧 🇨🇨
(FoxDetroit) **Women's College Basketball** West Virginia at Kansas State. (Live)
1:30 p.m. 2 3 22 **College Basketball** Michigan at Michigan State. (Live) 🎧 🇨🇨
2:00 p.m. (Bigten) **Women's College Basketball** Iowa at Northwestern. (Live) 🇨🇨
(ESPN) **High School Football** Under Armour All America Game. (Live)
(ESPN2) **Women's College Basketball** Cincinnati at South Florida. (Live)
(NBCSports) **College Basketball** Davidson at Duquesne. (Live)
2:30 p.m. 5 8 16 **Motorcycle Racing** Monster Energy Supercross: Anaheim. From Angel Stadium of Anaheim in Anaheim, Calif. (Taped) 🎧
4:00 p.m. (Bigten) **College Wrestling** Oregon State at Michigan. (Live) 🇨🇨
(ESPN2) **Women's College Basketball** Tennessee at Kentucky. (Live)
(NBCSports) **College Basketball** Massachusetts at St. Louis. (Live)
4:30 p.m. 5 8 16 **NFL Football** Seattle Seahawks at Philadelphia Eagles. (Live) 🎧 🇨🇨
17 (22.2) 32 **College Basketball** St. John's at Xavier. (Live) 🎧 🇨🇨
5:00 p.m. 50 **AHL Hockey** Chicago Wolves at Rockford IceHogs. (Live)
6:00 p.m. (Golf) **PGA Tour Golf** Sentry Tournament of Champions, Final Round. (Live)
7:30 p.m. (Bigten) **College Basketball** Northwestern at Minnesota. (Live) 🇨🇨
(NBCSports) **NHL Hockey** Detroit Red Wings at Chicago Blackhawks. (Live)
8:00 p.m. (FS1) **College Basketball** Purdue at Illinois. (Live)
10:00 p.m. (FoxDetroit) **NBA Basketball** Detroit Pistons at Los Angeles Lakers. (Live)
(FS1) **College Basketball** USC at Washington. (Live) 🇨🇨
(NBCSports) **NHL Hockey** Nashville Predators at Anaheim Ducks. (Live)

Monday

7:00 p.m. (Bigten) **Women's College Basketball** Illinois at Indiana. (Live) 🇨🇨
(ESPN2) **Women's College Basketball** Ohio State at Maryland. (Live)
(FoxDetroit) **College Basketball** Villanova at Marquette.
(FS1) **College Wrestling** Arizona State at Ohio State. (Live) 🇨🇨
(NBCSports) **NHL Hockey** Edmonton Oilers at Toronto Maple Leafs. (Live)
7:30 p.m. (ESPN) **College Football** LendingTree Bowl — Louisiana vs Miami (Ohio). (Live)
8:30 p.m. (NBCSCH) **NBA Basketball** Chicago Bulls at Dallas Mavericks. (Live)
9:00 p.m. (ESPN2) **College Basketball** West Virginia at Oklahoma State. (Live)
(FS1) **Women's College Basketball** Texas at Iowa State. (Live)

Radio today

4:30 p.m.
NFL playoffs — Bills at Texans (WSJM-AM, 1400; WSJM-FM, 106.1)
8:15 p.m.
NFL playoffs — Titans at Patriots (WSJM-AM, 1400; WSJM-FM, 106.1)

Sunday

1 p.m.
NFL playoffs — Vikings at Saints (WSJM-AM, 1400; WSJM-FM, 106.1)
1:30 p.m.
College basketball — Michigan at Michigan State (WCSY-FM, 103.7)
4:30 p.m.
NFL — Seahawks at Eagles (WSJM-AM, 1400; WSJM-FM, 106.1)

Monday

No local broadcasts

Contact us

The Herald-Palladium sports desk is staffed after 7 p.m. nightly. Coaches or managers are asked to report results as soon as possible the evening of the event for publication in the next day's edition.

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Photo provided / David Johnson

Bridgman's Nate Necas (left) defends against a pass by River Valle's Josh Seifert during Friday's game.

BEES

From page C1

"Coming into the game, coach told me that I would be pressing the point guard the entire time I was out there," Nate Necas said. "That's what I did and I was able to get some steals off that and make some stuff happen."

Lennon Lange, Jacob Barbour, and Will Korbel tallied 11 points apiece for River Valley. The Mustangs may no longer be unbeaten, but their hopes for a BCS White title are alive and well.

"Our main goal was to challenge and win our conference," Heckathorn said. "We still have a lot to clean up by I saw some things tonight we can definitely build upon. We're still focused on the goals we set at the beginning of the year. It was disappointing to lose, but it's good to compete against a team like that."

BRIDGMAN 47, RIVER VALLEY 36

BRIDGMAN (47)
Luke Biesy 2 6-8 11, Henry Branch 3 2-2 10, Hunter Adams 4 2-3 10, Jackson Schmaltz 2 4-6, Jayce Warren 2 1-2 6, Nate Necas 1 0-0 2. Totals 14 15-21 47.
RIVER VALLEY (36)
Lennon Lange 4 0-0 11, Will Korbel 5 0-0 11, Jacob Barbour 4 0-0 11, Matthew Schmidt 1 0-0 2, Levi Strauss 0 1-2 1. Totals 14 1-2 36.

Bridgman	**6**	**16**	**7**	**18**	**– 47**
River Valley	**8**	**12**	**12**	**4**	**– 36**

3-point goals – River Valley 7 (Lange 3, Barbour 3, Korbel), Bridgman 4 (Branch 2, Biesy, Warren). Total fouls – River Valley 17, Bridgman 7. Fouled out – River Valley (Strauss).
Records – Bridgman 4-2, River Valley 5-1.

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Don Campbell / HP staff See more photos:heraldpalladium.mycapture.com

Benton Harbor's Carlos Johnson reaches for a rebound against St. Joseph's Grant Hardy during the first half of Friday night's game.

TIGERS

From page C1

quarter. St. Joseph (1-4) fought back and led 18-17 before Kentrell Pullian's 3-pointer at the halftime buzzer put the Tigers up two at the break.

St. Joseph opened the second half with a 3-pointer by Brennen Kerns to go back up by a point and held its last lead of the game at 25-23. The Bears didn't trail by more than four until the final quarter.

"I was very pleased with our effort all night," St. Joseph coach Gregg Schaffer said. "I thought we executed, especially on the defensive end, and made just enough plays to be right there for about 26 minutes."

The Bears trailed just 40-36 early in the third quarter, but Benton Harbor then went on a 20-2 run. Pullian hit two free throws to give the Tigers their first double-digit lead of the game at 48-38, then followed with a corner 3-pointer.

"From there I knew St. Joe was gassed," Sterling said. "Our conditioning came into play tonight."

Benton Harbor standout Carlos Johnson finished with 19 points, 13 rebounds, five assists and four steals, all game highs. He scored 10 of his points in the third quarter as the Tigers started to gain control.

Quindarius Davis added 15 points and Pullian scored 14.

"Carlos kind of took over when they really needed him," Schaffer said. "That's the challenge when you play Benton Harbor. They have a lot of weapons, and he's a great player that takes over when they need him to, and that's what he did tonight. I felt like we made him and the rest of their team earn everything they got, and we're going to build on that."

Kerns topped St. Joseph with 11, Jeremiah Sterling scored eight, and Nick Borre had seven points and six rebounds.

"Our early schedule has been really tough, and our guys are sticking together," Schaffer said. "They're working really hard in practice to improve our execution on both sides of the ball. I think we saw that displayed for three quarters tonight, and our goal is to put together complete games from here on out."

Benton Harbor has a showdown today against Flint Beecher (3-1) at 5:30 p.m. at Kalamazoo Central in the Don Jackson Classic.

"We're looking forward to it," Sterling said. "It will be more our style of play. Guys are excited for it. It's just the journey — all these games are just to prepare for the playoffs. We've got to just trust the process and prepare for this journey."

BENTON HARBOR 63, ST. JOSEPH 41

BENTON HARBOR (63)
Kentrell Pullian 5 2-3 14, Quindarius Davis 7 1-2 15, William Suggs 1 1-2 4, Carlos Johnson 6 5-7 19, Trucel Singleton 1 0-0 2, Greg Cooper 2 0-0 4, Kyle Booth 2 1-2 5. Totals: 24 10-16 63.
ST. JOSEPH (41)
Jeremiah Sterling 4 0-3 8, Nick Borre 3 1-4 7, Griffin Shinrock 2 0-0 4, Andy Blomgren 1 1-2 3, Brennen Kerns 4 2-2 11, Luke Hedstrom 1 1-2 3, Grant Hardy 1 0-0 3, Conner Wright 1 0-0 2. Totals: 17 5-13 41.

B. Harbor	**12**	**8**	**16**	**27**	**— 63**
St. Joseph	**4**	**14**	**14**	**9**	**— 41**

3-point goals — Benton Harbor 5 (Pullian 2, Johnson 2, Suggs), St. Joseph 2 (Kerns, Hardy). Total fouls — Benton Harbor 14, St. Joseph 13. Fouled out — none. Technical foul — St. Joseph team. Rebounds — Benton Harbor 38 (Johnson 13, Davis 7), St. Joseph 32 (Borre 6, Blomgren 6). Assists — Johnson (9th) 5, Davis (8th) 3, Shinrock (SJ) 3, Borre (SJ) 3.
Records — Benton Harbor 6-0, St. Joseph 1-4.

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Schauffele takes 1-shot lead at Kapalua

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

KAPALUA, Hawaii (AP) — The only thing that resembled paradise to Xander Schauffele at Kapalua was his name atop the leaderboard Friday at the Sentry Tournament of Champions.

Through bursts of rain and gusts that topped 30 mph, Schauffele managed to go bogey-free for the second straight day with a 5-under 68 that gave him a one-shot lead over Patrick Reed and Joaquin Niemann.

Schauffele is trying to become the first repeat champion of this winners-only event in 10 years.

On this day, he was trying to keep it together.

Schauffele finished with a birdie, a two-putt par from just under 100 feet, and a 7-foot birdie on the final hole. That gave him the lead at 9-under 137, the highest 36-hole score to lead at Kapalua since 2008.

"A day of adjustment is sort of how I like to look at it, and glad we were able to come out on top," Schauffele said.

Reed made three straight birdies around the turn, lost two good scoring chances late, made up for that with a 30-foot birdie on the 17th and wound up with a 66 for the best score of the day. Niemann didn't make a birdie until the ninth hole and limited the damage enough for a 72.

Rickie Fowler (71) was two shots behind.

Schauffele won last year with a 62 in the final round, a score that now seems out of reach on a Plantation course with entirely new grass on fairways that remain soft because of rain. The greens have shelves that weren't there a year ago. And the weather was never this rough when he won.

"Besides looking the same and looking over at Molokai, very different," Schauffele said. "We're on the same property, but for the most part there's no memory I can fall back on when it comes to making a putt or hitting a bump-and-run shot on a certain hole since the green layouts are very different."

Justin Thomas was poised to join Schauffele until he missed the green at the 17th to the right and made bogey, and made another bogey on the 18th when his drive went left into the waist-high native grass. He was three strokes back after a 73.

Thomas had a moment that sized up the day. Hitting into the wind, his divot flew back toward his face and deposited in the back of his shirt, leaving tiny splotches of mud on his white pants.

The round was stopped twice, without ever taking players off the course, during a few burst of showers early that left standing water in too many spots. When told it would resume, Paul Casey asked if there was room to hit off the first tee.

A puddle stretched from one end to the other, but just behind the tee markers.

It was a sign that Kapalua would play longer than ever, and that much was evident throughout the day. Shots that typically bounce and roll out some 30 yards were rolling a few feet, if not hopping back from their pitch marks.

Matthew Wolff hit a tee shot on the 18th that plugged in its pitch mark.

BOWLING

MOONSHINERS – Tmesia Daughtry 537, Pam Head 505, Judy Roemer 501, Gladys Hunter 489 (202), Betsy Albrecht 489 (200). Team score: Bad Girls 1,417 (502).
MILLER LADIES – Bobbi Smith 513, Harriett Hackbart 513 (203), Sandy Vilwock 509, Pam Head 504 (208). Team score: Smith/Hackbart 1,026 (385).

AREA SCHEDULE

Today
Boys basketball
Don Jackson Classic at Kalamazoo Central: Benton Harbor vs. Flint Beecher, 5
Niles at Berrien Springs, 7
Wrestling
St. Joseph at Grand Haven Inv., 9:30
Lakeshore at Allendale Inv., 9:30
South Haven, River Valley, Decatur at Bloomingdale Inv., 10
Watervliet, Coloma, Hartford at Climax-Scotts Inv., 9
Berrien Springs, Buchanan at Hudsonville Unity Christian Inv., 9
Brandywine at Hillsdale Inv., 9:30
Lawrence, Eau Claire at Gobles Inv., 9
Competitive cheer
Buchanan at Portage Central Inv., 10
Bowling
Niles, Brandywine at South Haven (Lakeside Lanes), 11
Hockey
Crown Point at Lakeshore-St. Joseph (Garden Ice Arena), 11
College basketball
LMC men at Grand Rapids CC, 3
LMC women at Grand Rapids CC, 1
Sunday
Hockey
Lake Central Blue at Lakeshore-St. Joseph (Garden Ice Arena), 1:30
Monday
Bowling
Coloma at Martin (Rock 'N' Bowl), 3:30

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Friday's boys scores
Armada 48, Algonac 30
Bay City John Glenn 50, Lincoln-Alcona 32
Benton Harbor 63, St. Joseph 41
Blissfield 50, Tecumseh 33
Bridgman 47, Three Oaks River Valley 36
Brownstown Woodhaven 54, Bedford 51
Chelsea 55, Olivet 28
Croswell-Lexington 57, Almont 42
Eaton Rapids 69, Believue 41
Fennville 36, Allegan 33
Hartland 43, Walled Lake Central 35
Ionia 49, Owosso 18
Monclova Christian, Ohio 66, Saline Washtenaw Christian 35
Monroe St. Mary 70, Monroe Jefferson 49
Pewamo-Westphalia 53, Wyoming Tri-unity Christian 30
Pickford 55, Dearborn Advanced Technology 54
Pioneer N. Central, Ohio 49, Morenci 34
Royal Oak Shrine 53, Madison Heights Bishop Foley 43
Watervliet 39, Wyoming Lee 32
Cornerstone University Tournament
Showcase Bracket
Grand Rapids West Catholic 50, Beal City 36

Friday's girls scores
Armada 31, Algonac 15
Bloomfield Hills Marian 43, Saginaw Heritage 26
Byron Center 61, Wyoming 37
Dearborn Advanced Technology 44, Detroit Cristo Rey 17
Farmington Hills Mercy 54, Warren Regina 22
Fennville 36, Allegan 33
Fowlerville 52, Lansing Sexton 23
Gaylord St. Mary 62, Central Lake 31
Grand Rapids Covenant Christian 54, Grandville Calvin Christian 46
Hudsonville 46, Jenison 45
Imlay City 50, North Branch 34
Ionia 49, Owosso 18
Macomb Lutheran North 48, Dearborn Divine Child 30
Manton 53, Parchment 25
Mount Pleasant 45, Essexville Garber 44, OT
Muskegon Reeths-Puffer 52, Whitehall 32
Ojibwe Charter 58, Burt 17
Pickford 72, Rapid River 40
Royal Oak Shrine 50, Gabriel Richard Catholic 31
Tecumseh 52, Blissfield 28
Westwood 59, Hancock 34
Williamston 80, Okemos 51
Cornerstone University Tournament
Showcase Bracket
Fruitport Calvary Christian 50, Stanton Central Montcalm 46
Fremont Tournament
First Round
Fremont, Ind. 55, Sturgis 18

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	24	8	.750	—
Toronto	23	12	.657	2½
Philadelphia	23	14	.622	3½
Brooklyn	16	17	.485	8½
New York	10	24	.294	15
Southeast Division				
Miami	25	10	.714	—
Orlando	16	19	.457	9
Charlotte	14	23	.378	12
Washington	10	24	.294	14½
Atlanta	7	28	.200	18
Central Division				
Milwaukee	31	5	.861	—
Indiana	22	13	.629	8½
Chicago	13	22	.371	17½
Detroit	12	23	.343	18½
Cleveland	10	24	.294	20
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
Houston	24	11	.686	—
Dallas	22	12	.647	1½
San Antonio	14	19	.424	9
Memphis	13	22	.371	11
New Orleans	11	23	.324	12½
Northwest Division				
Denver	24	10	.706	—
Utah	22	12	.647	2
Oklahoma City	19	15	.559	5
Portland	15	21	.417	10
Minnesota	13	21	.382	11
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	27	7	.794	—
L.A. Clippers	25	11	.694	3
Phoenix	13	21	.382	14
Sacramento	13	22	.371	14½
Golden State	9	27	.250	19

Thursday's Games
Charlotte 109, Cleveland 106
Denver 124, Indiana 116
Miami 84, Toronto 76
Minnesota 99, Golden State 84
Utah 102, Chicago 86
Dallas 123, Brooklyn 111
Oklahoma City 109, San Antonio 103
Sacramento 128, Memphis 123
L.A. Clippers 126, Detroit 112

Friday's Games
Boston 109, Atlanta 106
Orlando 105, Miami 85
Portland 122, Washington 103
Houston 118, Philadelphia 108
New York at Phoenix
New Orleans at L.A. Lakers

Saturday's Games
Memphis at L.A. Clippers, 3:30 p.m.
Toronto at Brooklyn, 6 p.m.
Utah at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Denver at Washington, 8 p.m.
Charlotte at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Detroit at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games
New York at L.A. Clippers, 3:30 p.m.
Portland at Miami, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Memphis at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Detroit at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Friday's men's scores
EAST
Drexel 61, Delaware 55
Manhattan 71, Canisius 67
Niagara 75, Fairfield 66
Quinnipiac 63, Marist 58
Siena 75, Monmouth (NJ) 72
St. Peter's 75, Iona 74
SOUTH
NC A&T 123, Mid-Atlantic Christian 61
MIDWEST
Ball St. 61, Toledo 57
Detroit 66, N. Kentucky 58
Green Bay 85, Ill.-Chicago 71
Milwaukee 78, IUPUI 74
Rutgers 79, Nebraska 62
Wisconsin 61, Ohio St. 57
Wright St. 96, Oakland 69
SOUTHWEST
Houston 78, UCF 63
Tulsa 70, Temple 44

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	42	24	7	11	59	139	107
Toronto	42	23	14	5	51	152	135
Tampa Bay	39	22	13	4	48	139	121
Florida	40	21	14	5	47	145	137
Buffalo	42	18	17	7	43	124	133
Montreal	41	18	17	6	42	132	133
Ottawa	41	16	20	5	37	114	138
Detroit	41	10	28	3	23	89	157
Metropolitan Division							
Washington	42	28	9	5	61	150	125
N.Y. Islanders	39	25	11	3	53	115	102
Pittsburgh	40	24	11	5	53	138	107
Carolina	41	24	15	2	50	139	116
Philadelphia	41	22	14	5	49	131	123
Columbus	41	19	14	8	46	107	113
N.Y. Rangers	40	17	17	4	42	132	136
New Jersey	40	15	19	6	36	104	139
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
St. Louis	42	26	10	6	58	131	114
Colorado	41	24	13	4	52	151	122
Dallas	41	23	14	4	50	111	103
Winnipeg	41	22	16	3	47	128	126
Minnesota	41	19	17	5	43	126	137
Nashville	39	18	15	6	42	134	131
Chicago	42	16	16	6	42	123	139
Pacific Division							
Vegas	44	23	15	6	52	139	129
Arizona	43	23	15	4	50	122	110
Vancouver	41	22	15	4	48	139	124
Edmonton	43	21	17	5	47	127	137
Calgary	43	21	17	5	47	118	130
San Jose	42	18	21	3	39	112	141
Los Angeles	42	17	21	4	38	109	132
Anaheim	41	16	20	5	37	105	128

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Thursday's Games
Columbus 2, Boston 1, OT
Buffalo 3, Edmonton 2, OT
Tampa Bay 2, Montreal 1
New Jersey 2, N.Y. Islanders 1
San Jose 3, Pittsburgh 2, OT
Florida 6, Ottawa 3
Toronto 6, Winnipeg 3
Arizona 4, Anaheim 2
Calgary 4, N.Y. Rangers 3
Colorado 7, St. Louis 3
Vancouver 7, Chicago 5
Vegas 5, Philadelphia 4

Friday's Games
Washington 4, Carolina 3
Detroit at Dallas

Saturday's Games
Edmonton at Boston, 1 p.m.
Florida at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
San Jose at Columbus, 1 p.m.
Winnipeg at Minnesota, 2 p.m.
St. Louis at Vegas, 4 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Colorado at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Arizona, 8 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Nashville at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday's Games
San Jose at Washington, 12:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Carolina, 5 p.m.
Detroit at Pittsburgh, 5 p.m.
Calgary at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Nashville at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

Monday's Games
Winnipeg at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Colorado at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Bowl glance
Friday, Dec. 20
Bahamas Bowl
Nassau
Buffalo 31, Charlotte 7
Saturday, Dec. 21
Celebration Bowl
At Atlanta
NC A&T 64, Alcorn State 44
New Mexico Bowl
Albuquerque
San Diego State 48, Central Michigan 11
Cure Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Liberty 23, Georgia Southern 16
Boca Raton (Fla.) Bowl
FAU 52, SMU 28
Camellia Bowl
Montgomery, Ala.
Arkansas State 34, FIU 26
New Orleans Bowl
Appalachian State 31, UAB 17
Las Vegas Bowl
Washington 38, Boise State 7
Monday, Dec. 23
Gasparilla Bowl
At Tampa, Fla.
UCF 48, Marshall 25
Tuesday, Dec. 24
Hawaii Bowl
Honolulu
Hawaii 38, BYU 34
Thursday, Dec. 26
Independence Bowl
Shreveport, La.
Louisiana Tech 14, Miami 0
Quick Lane Bowl
Detroit
Pittsburgh 34, Eastern Michigan 30
Friday, Dec. 27
Military Bowl
Annapolis, Md.
North Carolina 55, Temple 13
Pinstripe Bowl
New York
Michigan State 27, Wake Forest 21
Texas Bowl
Houston
Texas A&M 24, Oklahoma State 21
Holiday Bowl
San Diego
Iowa 49, Southern Cal 24
Cheez-It Bowl
Phoenix
Air Force 31, Washington State 21
Saturday, Dec. 28
Camping World Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Notre Dame 33, Iowa State 9
Cotton Bowl Classic
Arlington, Texas
Penn State 53, Memphis 39
Peach Bowl
Atlanta
CFP Semifinal: LSU 63, Oklahoma 28
Fiesta Bowl
Glendale, Ariz.
CFP Semifinal: Clemson 29, Ohio State 23
Monday, Dec. 30
First Responder Bowl
Dallas
Western Kentucky 23, Western Michigan 20
Music City Bowl
Nashville, Tenn.
Louisville 38, Mississippi State 28
Redbox Bowl
Santa Clara, Calif.
California 35, Illinois 20
Orange Bowl
Miami Gardens, Fla.
Florida 36, Virginia 28
Tuesday, Dec. 31
Belk Bowl
Charlotte, N.C.
Kentucky 37, Virginia Tech 30
Sun Bowl
El Paso, Texas
Arizona State 20, Florida State 14
Liberty Bowl
Memphis, Tenn.
Navy 20, Kansas State 17
Arizona Bowl
Tucson, Ariz.
Wyoming 38, Georgia State 17
Alamo Bowl
San Antonio
Texas 38, Utah 10
Wednesday, Jan. 1
Citrus Bowl
Orlando, Fla.
Alabama 35, Michigan 16
Outback Bowl
Tampa, Fla.
Minnesota 31, Auburn 24
Rose Bowl
Pasadena, Calif.
Oregon 28, Wisconsin 27
Sugar Bowl
New Orleans
Georgia 26, Baylor 14
Thursday, Jan. 2
Birmingham (Ala.) Bowl
Cincinnati 38, Boston College 6
Gator Bowl
Jacksonville, Fla.
Tennessee 23, Indiana 22
Friday, Jan. 3
Famous Idaho Potato Bowl
Boise
Ohio 30, Nevada 21
Saturday, Jan. 4
Armed Forces Bowl
Fort Worth, Texas
Southern Miss (7-5) vs. Tulane (6-6), 11:30 a.m. (ESPN)
Monday, Jan. 6
Lendingtree Bowl
Mobile, Ala.
Miami (Ohio) (8-5) vs. Louisiana-Lafayette (10-3), 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Monday, Jan. 13
College Football Championship
New Orleans
Clemson (14-0) vs. LSU (14-0), 8 p.m. (ESPN)

NFL

Playoffs
Wild Card Round
Saturday, Jan. 4
Buffalo at Houston, 4:35 p.m. (ESPN / ABC)
Tennessee at Baltimore, 8:15 p.m. (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 5
Minnesota at New Orleans, 1:05 p.m. (FOX)
Seattle at Philadelphia, 4:40 p.m. (NBC)

GOLF

Sentry Tournament of Champions
Friday
At Plantation Course at Kapalua
Kapalua, Maui, Hawaii
Purse: $6.7 million
Yardage: 7,596; Par 73
Second Round

Xander Schauffele	69-68—137	-9
Patrick Reed	72-66—138	-8
Joaquin Niemann	66-72—138	-8
Rickie Fowler	68-71—139	-7
Patrick Cantlay	69-71—140	-6
Justin Thomas	67-73—140	-6
J.T. Poston	70-71—141	-5
Matthew Wolff	69-72—141	-5
Gary Woodland	73-69—142	-4
Nate Lashley	71-71—142	-4
Collin Morikawa	71-71—142	-4
Lanto Griffin	71-71—142	-4
Jon Rahm	69-73—142	-4
Matt Kuchar	68-74—142	-4
Graeme McDowell	74-69—143	-3
Corey Conners	73-70—143	-3
Dustin Johnson	72-71—143	-3
Ryan Palmer	71-72—143	-3
Kevin Kisner	72-72—144	-2
Chez Reavie	74-71—145	-1
Adam Long	74-71—145	-1
Sung Kang	72-73—145	-1
Brendon Todd	71-74—145	-1
Paul Casey	74-72—146	E
Jim Herman	73-73—146	E
Max Homa	75-72—147	+1
Cameron Champ	73-74—147	+1
Sebastián Muñoz	72-75—147	+1
Tyler Duncan	69-78—147	+1
Keith Mitchell	76-72—148	+2
J.B. Holmes	78-71—149	+3
Dylan Frittelli	72-77—149	+3
Kevin Na	76-74—150	+4
Martin Trainer	74-77—151	+5

COMMENTARY

Bears need to find the next Ryan Tannehill – not the next Drew Brees

By DAN WIEDERER
Chicago Tribune (TNS)

When the new year began, the bigwigs found themselves scratching their heads and searching for solutions. They were still processing their frustrating season, trying to figure out why the momentum of the previous year's playoff breakthrough hadn't done more to propel them upward in the NFL hierarchy.

The leaders of the organization were unsatisfied yet optimistic regarding the performance of their franchise quarterback, still publicly professing faith in the player they had drafted with the No. 2 pick a few years earlier.

Publicly, the general manager supported the quarterback by praising his work ethic and his passion for the game and emphasizing the brighter moments from his journey.

"He showed that he made some really good plays for us," the general manager said. "When he was out there, he did some things and played at a really high level and made some plays for us and was key in a lot of our wins."

Still, the organization also knew it had to start seriously brainstorming fallback plans, protecting itself in case the quarterback struggled significantly enough to threaten the next season. Thus, despite what they were expressing in front of the cameras, the bigwigs inside team headquarters went to work mapping out their Plan B options.

Now? On Saturday, the Tennessee Titans will play an AFC wild-card-round game against the New England Patriots in Foxborough, Mass. The franchise quarterback they so badly wanted to succeed, Marcus Mariota, is now their backup. And starter Ryan Tannehill is out to continue a run in which he has helped the team win seven of its last 10 games.

Privately, GM Jon Robinson and coach Mike Vrabel are exchanging fist bumps. Somewhere inside Halas Hall, the Bears should be taking notes. Their 2020 plans will require a similar approach and an exhaustive search for alternatives at quarterback.

None of this is to suggest the Titans are suddenly the model NFL franchise. They finished 9-7 and barely squeezed into the AFC playoffs with a win over the Texans in Week 17.

But just 11 weeks ago, the Titans were 2-4. The frustration was growing. Mariota's inconsistency was again becoming problematic. He was, at times, too indecisive and jittery in the pocket.

The quarterback's lack of production was pushing the Titans ever closer to the cliff, closer to a plunge into irrelevance.

Yet Robinson had prepared for just that kind of emergency.

Tannehill, you see, had arrived in Nashville, Tenn., in March via a trade with the Dolphins.

He wasn't just a journeyman backup tasked with being attentive in meetings and providing a strong support system for the starter. He had made 88 career starts in Miami and had enough talent and experience that the Titans believed they could win games with him if necessary.

Tannehill has rewarded that belief and has an opportunity Saturday to shoot for the biggest victory of his career.

Admittedly, this isn't a sexy example for Bears fans to gravitate toward. But in reality, it's the kind of troubleshooting approach general manager Ryan Pace and coach Matt Nagy should be working toward as they privately consider the possibility that Mitch Trubisky might not have what it takes to lift the franchise to the next level.

Yes, Trubisky will be the designated starter when the Bears open organized team activities in May. And based on Pace's emphatic statements Tuesday, Trubisky figures to hold that role into the regular season next fall.

But for how long? If his play remains erratic, if his development stalls again, if his mindbending inconsistency continues, won't the Bears be forced to make a Titans-like change? And isn't it mandatory that Pace prepares for that possibility, as much as he doesn't want it to happen?

Shouldn't he already be brainstorming possibilities for free agency, the draft or even a trade?

"The quarterback room is critical," Pace acknowledged this week. "It's important for us. We're always going to try to make it better. But as far as who it is and what we're going to do, we're not there yet."

OK. Fair enough.

We all should know far more about the Bears' motives and visions by the last week of March. Once free agency heats up and Pace takes his money to the flea market and his pencil to the "QB2" line on the depth chart, the Bears will be left to explain the role and expectations for their 2020 backup. And the identity of that player almost certainly will hint at just how long a leash the team is willing to give Trubisky.

(Suggestion: Research the Titans' plan of attack.)

Immediately after trading for Tannehill, Robinson emphasized that Mariota was still the undisputed starter and that the message had been clearly conveyed to Tannehill.

"He understands that he's coming in as the backup quarterback," Robinson said.

But eventually, the Titans' confidence in their backup was strong, sincere and enough to help salvage their season.

As much as Pace continues to plead for patience — and his requests, so far, have been met with enthusiasm by his bosses — it's hard to fathom anyone at Halas Hall will have the stomach to again stay the course if the 2020 season falls short of the playoffs with quarterback problems remaining persistent.

So for now, with the Bears' 2017 search for the next Drew Brees registering as a disappointment, a 2020 search for the next Ryan Tannehill should begin.

Shula at 90: His wife says he has a 'beautiful life'

MIAMI (AP) — Don Shula has been about longevity for, well, a long time.

He entered the NFL as a player in 1951 and retired in 1995 after coaching the Miami Dolphins for 26 years. He won more games than any coach in league history, a record that has stood for, coincidentally, 26 years.

And now he's turning 90.

"He's going to survive everybody, I think," former Dolphins safety Dick Anderson said.

Shula's birthday is Saturday. Anderson and others who played for the coach threw a surprise party for him last month, and about 100 people attended.

"He said, 'Where were all of you when I turned 89?'" Pro Football Hall of Fame quarterback Bob Griese said.

By comparison, Saturday's celebration will be low-key, said Shula's wife, Mary Anne.

"He's a little tired from all the things going on during the holidays," she said Friday. "But he's doing fantastic. It's amazing to be 90. He's still telling lots of jokes. He's content, happy, fulfilled and has a beautiful life."

No. 5 Ohio State upset at home by Wisconsin

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Nate Reuvers scored 17 points, and Wisconsin rallied late to upset No. 5 Ohio State 61-57 on Friday night.

Reuvers' jumper gave the Badgers (9-6, 2-1 Big Ten) a 52-51 lead with 1:54 left, and late free throws from Reuvers and D'Mitrik Trice sealed the win.

Ohio State (11-3, 1-2), a 7 1/2-point favorite, lost a second straight game. The Buckeyes got a terrific performance from Kaleb Wesson, who had 22 points and 13 rebounds. But Wesson missed a 3-pointer at the 2-minute mark that likely would have kept the Buckeyes in the game.

Ohio State became the second top-5 team in the AP Top 25 to lose this week after No. 4 Oregon fell at Colorado on Thursday night.

Wisconsin led by four at halftime of a sloppy, slow game, but Ohio State ripped off back-to-back 3-pointers early in the second half to start a 13-2 run.

The Badgers continued battling back until Reuvers got them the lead late. Kobe King scored 13 points for Wisconsin, which has won four straight.

Both teams started slowly and struggled from the field throughout. Wisconsin missed its first five shots and finished at 38% from the field, and Ohio State shot 40%.

BIG PICTURE

Wisconsin: The Badgers stayed in the game despite poor shooting and secured a satisfying win to start the long stretch of Big Ten games.

Ohio State: Playing without 6-foot-9 power forward Kyle Young, who is recovering from appendix surgery, Wesson had to carry the load inside.

JACKSON

From page C1

— five passes defensed, a forced fumble, 60 tackles and five tackles for a loss.

He didn't have a touchdown for the first time in his three seasons and told the Tribune in November that it was "getting stressful" as he waited out a big-play drought.

"I feel like I'm still playing well," Jackson said then. "But I'm one of my biggest critics. Just trying to get in more positions to make plays, if that makes any sense. But it's a different system with different things (involved). So you've just got to buy in and control what you can control. Just dominate my square and my man. Whatever I'm in, I've just got to dominate that."

He wasn't the only Bears player to see a dip in numbers this season under new defensive coordinator Chuck Pagano.

The Bears went from 36 takeaways in 2018 to 19 in 2019.

Even with that regression, the Bears still held opponents to 18.6 points per game and gave up just 40 passing plays of 20 or more yards, tied for third best in the NFL.

"There's gonna be years that you have seven, eight, nine (interceptions) and there's gonna be years you have zero, one or two," Pagano said when asked about Jackson's Pro Bowl nomination. "Sometimes you just don't have the same opportunities and things like that. He's a great player. He deserves to be in that deal."

With Jackson locked up with big money, the Bears need to determine who will start alongside him at the other safety spot. Ha Ha Clinton-Dix, Jackson's former teammate at Alabama, played well during his one-year, prove-it contract with the Bears, but it's unclear if they will try to bring him back.

According to Spotrac, Jackson's $14.6 million per year ranks ahead of the Titans' Kevin Byard ($14.1 million), the Chiefs' Tyrann Mathieu ($14 million) and the Redskins' Landon Collins ($14 million). Collins, who is on a six-year, $84 million contract, has $44.5 million guaranteed.

hp OUTDOORS

Submitting hunting or fishing photos

Have a behemoth buck, a tremendous turkey or super-sized salmon? Please submit photos to sports@TheHP.com.

Your photo must be in focus, all persons in the photo must be identified, and the general location of the hunt must be provided (for example, 10-point buck shot in Benton Township, black bear shot near Munising, Mich., etc.)

Dudley Edmondson captures nature in pixels

By JOHN MYERS
Duluth News Tribune (TNS)

DULUTH, Minn. — Dudley Edmondson was leading a guest into his backyard in Duluth's Lakeside neighborhood, on their way to a heated shed where they were going to chat on a cold December morning, when he stopped suddenly, halfway through the gate.

"There's that red-bellied woodpecker," Edmondson said. "They make that sound that sort of sounds like a chirping Chihuahua."

Edmondson apologized for the abrupt halt. But that's just who he is: a birder first, everything else second. That includes renowned nature photographer, book author, public speaker, public lands advocate, videographer, city parks commissioner and a pioneering role model for African-Americans outdoors.

"Whenever I'm outside, whatever I'm doing, I'm always birding, too. … Sometimes I'm double-birding," he said, noting a phrase he made up to describe watching one bird with his eyes and listening for other birds with his ears.

Sitting on a sofa in the well-windowed shed, which he built himself as an enclosed nature observatory, Edmondson, 57, pointed to a white board with a list of a dozen or so birds he kept track of on a single day. From his own backyard, he's seen more than 150 species of birds over the years.

"This is just a great migration spot," he said of Duluth in general and Lakeside in particular, noting many migrating birds fly over as they avoid Lake Superior.

Year-round residents like chickadees, woodpeckers and a crows pecked away chunks of suit hanging from his backyard trees and bird feeders as we chatted from the comfort of his shed.

The outdoors as escape

Edmondson, who moved to Duluth in 1989, developed a love of serious birding when he was a senior in high school in Columbus, Ohio. His art teacher was an avid birder who offered to take Edmondson to Texas to a birding hotspot along the Rio Grande River.

"So I sold Frisbees and suckers to other students to raise money, and that was my first big birding trip," Edmondson said. "I was painting, too, at the time … and I guess he must have seen something in me he thought was worthwhile."

But Edmondson's love of nature, his passion for being outdoors, was cemented long before that trip. For years as a child, he had been spending many hours of many days outdoors finding little things in nature that enchanted him.

"As a kid, my parents were struggling with alcoholism, and my escape, my way to get away from that, was to be outdoors, to go into the backyard or on a walk and look at bugs and birds. That's how I coped with it," Edmondson said.

It wasn't all bad memories of childhood at home, however.

"We'd go on family picnics and we'd fish and barbecue or just hike around," he said. "I really enjoyed that. I'd see new birds."

Edmondson tried the traditional route to adulthood, attending Ohio State

See PHOTOGRAPHER, page C6

Photo provided / Brad Anderson

A pair of long-tailed ducks at New Buffalo harbor on Dec. 27.

Ducks of many types seen in local waters

Jonathan Wuepper
Southwest Michigan Wildlife

One of the downsides of experiencing mild winter weather is that wildlife viewing is often dull. Birds and mammals are less conspicuous against the brown and gray landscape, and spend less time looking for food. Thus we look to Lake Michigan for noteworthy sightings.

A pair of winter plumage long-tailed ducks were photographed by Brad Anderson at New Buffalo harbor on Dec. 27. Long-tailed ducks are a frequent winter visitor along the Pacific and Atlantic seaboard states and provinces, also common on the Great Lakes from October to April.

The species is not often seen or photographed at close range. The birds in Anderson's photos lack the distinctive long tail feathers, present when the birds are in breeding plumage from about April through late summer or early fall.

The long-tailed duck nests around the high latitudes of both North America and Eurasia, and migrates southward after breeding, arriving in Michigan waters in October and remaining through April. There are a few records of long-tailed ducks from Berrien County waters in late spring and summer. They represent late migrants rather than summer residents.

Long-tailed ducks, known for diving to depths of 150 feet or more, actually do most of their foraging at depths of around 25 feet.

Another diving waterbird photographed by Anderson last week is the horned grebe, seen in St. Joseph on Dec. 24. Horned grebes nest in Canada, south to North Dakota and northern Minnesota. During autumn, thousands of horned grebes pass through Michigan and other Great Lakes states on their way to the Atlantic and Gulf coasts where they winter. A few

See WEUPPER, page C6

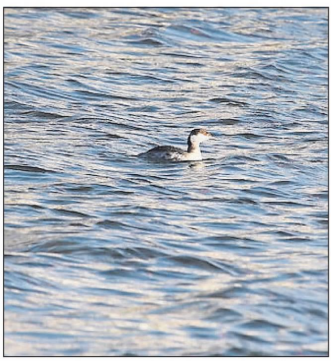

Photo provided / Brad Anderson

A horned grebe in St. Joseph on Dec. 24.

Photo provided / Andrew Stauffer

An American black duck in the St. Joseph River on Dec. 23.

Kayak fishing in January?

Dave Mull

As I write this Thursday, the second day of the new year, I'm proud of myself for keeping one of my resolutions so far: I haven't bought any new fishing tackle or lures this year. Oh, earlier today I was online starting to fill out quantities to purchase crankbaits I'd never heard of, but I surfed away before I put down a name or email address, let alone credit card information.

This is typically the time of year I go on a fishing tackle spending spree. Especially right now in southwest Michigan, there's not a lot of hunting and fishing to be done. After teasing ice anglers with enough ice to let them walk out on lakes (but not much more) the fickle, cold-then-hot winter melted it all. Rain and melting snow has the rivers around here pretty blown out, too. So the usual ice fishing and good river steelhead this region offers have both been delayed.

But the lakes are open, so after this column is done I'm charging my little lithium battery for my electronics, getting my drysuit out of the closet, pulling a few rods out of the assortment leaning in the corner of my home office and then, tomorrow, fishing somewhere from my kayak. The main goal is to get some photos for a magazine article of my fishing buddy Zach Heiden demonstrating anchoring techniques. But I also want to just get out and cast. I haven't tried since early November. It would be pretty great to catch a fish, too.

Another thing I'm planning to do is take my 10-year-old dachshund mix Gus out squirrel hunting, which would be a first for him. I haven't hunted for squirrels in at least 10 years, but it's something I've always enjoyed. I need to find a neoprene dog suit for Gus, though, as he just can't handle cold weather. The tough little guy has the heart for it, just not the fur. He won't have any idea of what we would be trying to do sitting still and quiet in the woods and probably wouldn't be really happy about it until the first bushytail tumbled out of a tree. He'd catch on to the program pretty quick after that.

The main thing I've done so far as winter continues through its third week is watch Youtube videos about fishing rigs and techniques. Youtube is a weird sort of place. All sorts of folks submit videos of varying technical quality. Lots of these guys seem to think they're fishing experts, and some of them certainly are. A guy can learn a lot about how to fish by watching them.

In fact, 20-something kayak pal Bogdan Korosteskyi credits watching Youtube for some of his success fishing kayak bass tournaments. As a teenager, he emigrated from Ukraine, where his fishing experience was mainly watching his father fish for carp. But here, he got a kayak, caught some bass and the sport just resonated with him. So he watched Youtube to learn how to catch bass and applied what he saw. Year before last, he won three kayaks and a tidy pile of money.

He also produced a bunch of his own videos for his own "Kayak Outbreak" Youtube channel.

A resolution I haven't kept is to get out and do something outdoors each week so I don't write any more columns like this one, complaining about lack of things to do outside. Well, this was only a half-week, so I didn't actually mess up that resolution. Next week we'll talk about kayak fishing in January.

Outdoors columnist Dave Mull lives in Paw Paw. Write to him at dave.sportfish.mull@gmail.com.

Warren Dunes

Volunteer stewardship work days: 1-4 p.m. Jan 12, 19 and 26. Meet at the picnic ground between the park headquarters and the campground. Volunteers will help remove non-native woody bushes and vines from dune areas. No experience is necessary. Dress for the weather, bring a pair of work gloves and hand trimmers if you have them. For more information, contact Heidi M. Frei at freih@michigan.gov.

Harbor Country Hikers

Robinson Woods Preserve quiet hike: 1 p.m. Jan. 18. HCH president Pat Fisher will share the postglacial history of the area during the 1.5-mile moderate level hike. Cold weather gear and water are recommended. For more information, visit harborcountryhikers.com.

Sarett Nature Center

Junior naturalist: 10 a.m.-noon Jan. 18. A club for kids ages 7-12 who are really interested in nature. Find out what it means to be a Sarett naturalist, learn about the animals of Sarett, and do projects. Other meetings Feb. 15, March 21, April 18 and May 23. Cost is $6 per session. Call 927-4832 to register. Membership is required.

Fernwood Botanical Garden

Ask a naturalist: 10:30-11:30 a.m. Jan. 11 at Fernwood. Questions can be submitted ahead of time by email to info@fernwoodbotanical.org, or bring them with to get answered that morning. Cost is $10 ($8 for members).

Terrarium making: 2-3:30 p.m. Jan. 18 at Fernwood. Learn the art of creating a chic miniature garden under glass. Plants, potting mix and containers provided, but feel free to bring your own creative elements. Cost is $55 ($44 for members). Register by Jan. 15.

Berrien County Sportsman's Club

Winter archery: Youth instructional 2 p.m. Jan. 5. Equipment provided, no charge, non-members welcome. Youth 3-d 3 p.m. Jan. 5, no charge, non-members welcome. Traditional 3-d league starts 7 p.m. Jan. 6 for 10 weeks, compound 3-d league starts 7 p.m. Jan. 7. Both leagues $50 for members, $100 for non-members. For more info call Dan at 277-4789.

Trap and skeet shooting: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sundays, 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays.

Coloma Rod & Gun Club

Carrying concealed weapon classes: 8 a.m.-5 p.m second Saturday of each month. Cost is $105. Call Andrew Zachary at 351-2051 or 944-7802.

Trap shooting: Thursdays 6-10 p.m. and Sundays from 8 a.m.-noon.

Archery: Ranges open for members at any time; public hours are 8 a.m.-noon Sundays and Thursdays 6-10.

Breakfast: Breakfast is available from 8 a.m. to noon every Sunday. For more information, go online to www.colomarodandgunclub.com.

Watervliet Rod & Gun Club

Carrying concealed weapon classes: 6-10 p.m. Jan. 16; 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Jan. 18. Register from 6-7 p.m. Jan. 14. Saturday class features an attorney or police officer to speak and answer questions, an NRA course, personal protection in the home, and three hours of range time with one-on-one supervision. Cost is $100. Call 468-3837 to register.

Submit information for Get Outdoors to sports@TheHP.com, fax to 429-4392 or call 429-1294 by Wednesday.

PHOTOGRAPHER

From page C5

University. He considered a career as a wildlife biologist or maybe a game warden. But college was too structured for him.

"I knew I wanted a career in nature, outdoors… But I felt like college was a conveyor belt that they put you on and when you got done they stamped you with a diploma and you were sent out into a career," Edmondson said. "It just wasn't for me."

He did manage to gain a degree as a pharmacy technician. But he also traveled, birded, became a good photographer "at first just to keep track of the birds I saw" and was pulled more and more into nature. The more time he spent outdoors, the more photos he took. Eventually they were so good he was selling them to magazines, field guides and encyclopedias.

"Photography and birding just go together," he said.

Hawk Ridge drew him north

In 1987 and 1988, Edmondson visited Duluth after hearing about Hawk Ridge, one of the continent's premier bird migration observation locations. Duluth became part of his plan to turn birding and nature photography into a living. Edmondson liked those trips so much he decided to move to Duluth in 1989.

"I wanted to go pro (in photography) and I felt like I needed a really good place to do it and be able to access wild subject matter easily. Duluth was the place I stuck the pin on the map. Hawk Ridge was really the draw," he said. "At the time, I was really into birds of prey and raptors in flight were my focus in the beginning. That is also why I ended up buying a house within view of Hawk Ridge."

There was also a person instrumental in Edmondson's decision.

"The first person I met in Duluth, up at Hawk Ridge, was Sparky Stensaas. He was just so nice that I figured if everybody in Duluth was like Sparky, this would be a great place to live," Edmondson said.

Stensaas, also an outdoors enthusiast and at the time one of the official hawk counters at Hawk Ridge, vividly recalled that first meeting.

"Dudley pulled up in this red, four-wheel-drive pickup truck and gets out, and here is this black guy with binoculars around his neck, wearing a red and black flannel shirt," Stensaas said. "You don't see that every day in Duluth."

The two birders hit it off from the start.

"We talked so much that day I'm sure my (hawk) count was way off," Stensaas said with a laugh. "At some point after that, maybe it was a couple years, Dudley called me and asked me if I wanted to move with him to Banff, Canada… I told him no, and that he probably just couldn't move to Canada that easily, either … but I invited him to come move in with me in Duluth. And he said 'yes.'"

Thirty years later, Edmondson says can't imagine living anywhere else. He still travels nationwide, more than 50 days each year, guiding birding tours in Texas, producing nature videos in America's national parks and wild areas, and speaking to corporate or nonprofit group meetings where he advocates for public lands, for unspoiled wild places and for getting more African-Americans outside to enjoy nature.

But he has set deep routes in the Northland. He now serves on the Duluth City Parks and Recreation Commission. He also likes to trail run, fly fish, fat bike and mountain bike in and around Duluth. Edmondson's wife, Nancy Latour, a Duluth native and an accountant here, also is an outdoor enthusiast.

"This is really a great place to be if you like nature, if you want to be in the woods. You don't have to go very far at all to be in a good place," Edmondson said.

Edmondson worked for what was the Duluth Clinic (now Essentia) as a pharmacy technician from 1990 to 2007, his day job to help support his outdoors work.

"When I got my first apartment, up on Fourth Street, my landlord told me that the other residents thought I was a drug dealer. They hadn't seen a black man with a new truck before," Edmondson said, now laughing about what was clearly systemic racism. "I guess, as a pharmacy tech, I was sort of in the drug business."

From photography to videography, and much in between

Since 2007 Edmondson has been a full-time photographer, author and videographer, producing video pieces for the Nature Conservancy, Northland College, the Duluth Library Foundation and many other groups and nonprofits.

His first book, "Black & Brown Faces in America's Wild Places" (AdventureKeen Publications, 2006), featured people of color who had succeeded in outdoor endeavors. He's been a leader in the effort to make the nation's wild places more inclusive as he strives to highlight outdoor role models for young African-Americans. Edmondson says his goal is to get African-Americans vocally concerned about the environment and conservation efforts.

"There was a lack of tradition among African-Americans for 200 years or more … because of slavery and then the migration north into big urban centers … There was a long break in that history, that connection to the outdoors. Part of it was that there was no opportunity, there was no access allowed" for black people, Edmondson said. "Even some of our national parks were segregated… with Negro picnic areas and Negro bathrooms. And in a lot of places, black people simply wouldn't have dared to go outdoors for recreation without feeling in danger."

Edmondson's still photography has been featured in galleries and nearly 100 publications around the world. His latest book, "What's That Flower: A beginners guide to Wildflowers" was published by DK Publishing in 2013.

Much of his professional attention now, between speaking engagements and guiding birding trips, has been on producing video. It's part of a pattern Edmondson has noticed about himself: Every few years he likes to try something new. That's why he built his own shed, just to see if he could do it. (It turned out great, by the way.)

"I like to keep learning new things. I love it when I can figure out something new," he said. "I love creating. It makes me happy … That's what fires off my endorphins."

Stensaas says Edmondson is a quintessential move-here Duluthian, the group of people who have migrated to the city because of Lake Superior, outdoor recreational opportunities and unspoiled woods, water and wildlife.

"This is a perfect place for Dudley. He's such a Duluth kind of guy," Stensaas said. "He's so attached to the natural world and the natural world is so accessible here."

Edmondson agreed.

"I can't see myself living in a larger town, a big city. Maybe visit some places that are warmer … My wife has talked about the south of France," Edmondson said with a grin. "But we have bikes and kayaks … no kids … And we love how easy it is to get outdoors here. That's what we're all about."

WUEPPER

From page C5

remain over the southern half of Michigan's Lower Peninsula, as long as open water prevails. An American black duck was photographed on the St. Joseph River on Dec. 23 by Andrew Staufer of Kalamazoo. The American black duck looks similar to the female mallard. It is most abundant in Southwest Michigan during spring and fall migrations. During the winter months it is uncommon here. The best local place to find it in December and January is the Brown Sanctuary off Euclid Avenue in Benton Township.

Jonathan Wuepper is an area naturalist. Report your sightings to him at wueperj@gmail.com.

Michigan DNR photo

A view of Upper Tahquamenon Falls in winter.

Reflecting on Mich. state parks' centennial year

By RON OLSON
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

When was the first time you fell in love with Michigan's out-of-doors?

Most people – whether longtime residents or those here just for a visit – have had that moment when a picture-perfect blue sky, a sweeping shoreline vista, the silence of an old-growth forest or the sound of rushing water has taken their breath away.

This past year we celebrated these wondrous features of our state, and the people who gather amid them, during our state parks centennial.

Michigan state parks, forests, trails and waterways are at the core of the spirit of this Great Lakes state, and we are working hard to ensure that they endure for another century.

On May 12, 1919, the Michigan Legislature created the state parks system with the establishment of the Michigan State Parks Commission. This legislative act not only moved forward a vision to acquire lands to create quality public outdoor spaces but helped shape an important aspect of Michigan's heritage.

Our state parks fused together the public's desire for recreation, relaxation and rejuvenation with opportunities to make lasting memories – enjoying experiences outdoors with Michigan's spectacular scenic beauty as a backdrop.

A drive through Holly Recreation Area or Sleepy Hollow State Park evokes memories of Sunday afternoons and gingham picnic blankets. A hike along the path to the brink of the Tahquamenon Falls or a weekend spent on the soft sands in front of Ludington State Park's historic beach house may recall memories of special times spent with family and friends.

It's for this reason that the Michigan state parks centennial celebration centered around the personal memories and shared experiences that connect so many of us.

As the year closed, we had an opportunity to step back and ask what it will take to ensure our state parks are sustainable and protected for decades to come.

We thought a lot about why we do what we do.

After combing through many of the snapshots and stories submitted by the public to our online memory map, hearing anecdotes shared at campfire storytelling events and seeing the artwork created by plein air painters – all the result of 2019's centennial celebration programming – it's easier to peel back the layers to see the heart of what we do and why.

Our natural resources stewardship work, stellar recreation facilities and resource conservation efforts are indeed pillars of Michigan's state parks system, but our backbone is our 28 million annual visitors.

Throughout the yearlong centennial celebration, we were increasingly made aware that state parks play an integral role in Michigan culture. These unique outdoor spaces have become memory-making destinations for so many people.

Another idea we have considered is how to become even more relevant to current and future generations of state park users.

As we strive to sustain world-class outdoor recreation opportunities, protect and preserve our natural and cultural resources and maintain an engaging culture within our DNR staff, how do we move the needle toward greater connection and relevancy?

In many ways, attaining that accomplishment will be realized by reversing the order of these important goals.

First, we must continue to attract and retain the best and brightest DNR staff members who are passionate about natural and cultural resources.

In doing that, I am assured staff will continue to seek innovative ways to protect and conserve resources, while also creating engaging ways for people to experience and appreciate the outdoors, and by extension, our 103 Michigan state parks.

Lantern-lit hikes, dark-sky events, water parks, the Bob Ross virtual 5K, storytelling events and Detroit's Outdoor Adventure Center are just a few of the ways DNR staffers have put their heads together to expand outdoor experiences in entirely new ways.

The many interpreters, park managers, rangers and our business partners all work hard to maintain the many traditional ways park visitors experience the outdoors, while sometimes shifting their focus to discover new ways to offer quality outdoor experiences.

In addition, as we continue to sustain outdoor recreation opportunities in Michigan and maintain good stewardship practices, we've embraced "sustainable contraction" – a strategic concept that identifies new opportunities to provide improved access or recreational opportunities.

Recent campground upgrades at Wilderness State Park are a great example of this strategy being implemented.

Based on a shift in today's camping tendencies, we recently integrated additional full-hook-up options for recreational vehicles at the park, rather than building an additional new bathroom and shower facility.

This shift in infrastructure development allowed us to better serve our customers while spending less money on renovations.

The foundation laid 100 years ago by the Michigan State Parks Commission has produced a beloved and substantial system of state parks, pathways and scenic sites.

Moving forward, we will continue to be guided by some of those same early tenets adopted by the commission – sustainability, conservation and expansion.

Conservation will help ensure the existence and prosperity of these special outdoor spaces for the next 100 years. Sustainability allows for innovation to achieve goals appropriate for the broadest group possible. Expansion will continue to allow the state parks system to remain nimble and develop as needed.

From that pathway along the rushing roar of the Tahquamenon River to the sandy beaches at Ludington, and to dozens of other special places scattered across Michigan, it is for our park visitors of today and tomorrow that we remain faithful stewards, conserving our natural resources and keeping state parks favored as phenomenal memory-making destinations.

There are dangers with sign vandalism

By DOUG LEIER
Grand Forks Herald (TNS)

GRAND FORKS, N.D. — At first glance, it might not appear that sign vandalism and North Dakota's outdoors would have much in common. But on closer inspection, the connections are obvious.

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department, in its October 2019 issue of North Dakota Outdoors magazine, took a hard look at this long-standing issue and a new program designed to reduce the senseless destruction.

Dale Heglund, program director of the North Dakota Local Technical Assistance Program, is leading the statewide effort, called the Sign Warrior program, which encourages kids to convince adults that they shouldn't vandalize signs.

The Game and Fish Department, through its hunter education program, has joined the effort in educating young hunters of the dangers of shooting at road signs and other signs.

Heglund in the article said it's unlikely the vandals who shoot and damage signs think about those they are putting at risk.

"They don't realize that when a sign is shot, motorists don't get that bounce-back of light needed at night to read a sign correctly and get the message it's trying to deliver," Heglund said. "And when that's the case, bad things can happen."

John Mazur, Game and Fish Department hunter education coordinator, said when Heglund approached him about the sign initiative, he thought it was the perfect opportunity to reinforce something hunter education volunteers have been teaching students.

"As far as Game and Fish is concerned and hunting is concerned, we have both a direct and an indirect impact from people shooting signs," Mazur said. "Of course, we have our own signage, like PLOTS and WMA signs, and when those get shot up, we have to replace them.

"But there's also that indirect impact because of what's associated with it when a sign gets shot, especially out in the country," he added.

"People say that a hunter did it. Well, we don't want that message to be out there, because it's not a hunter at that point when they're shooting signs. They are vandals."

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Snow covers the bluff in downtown St. Joseph on Nov. 7 after the area received its first significant snowfall of the season.

Snow accumulates on trees at Andrews University on Nov. 11, after a storm dumped several inches of snow on the area.

A woman enjoys a sunset walk along Silver Beach in St. Joseph on Nov. 22.

November & December: A Second Look

Photos from the files of Herald-Palladium photographer Don Campbell

A man photographs Lake Michigan waves crashing along the shore at Lions Park Beach in St. Joseph on Dec. 6.

Dozens of dogs and their owners gather in downtown St. Joseph on Dec. 7 for the 21st Annual Reindog Holiday Parade.

Volunteers unload bicycles Dec. 7 at Southwest Michigan Regional Airport in Benton Harbor as part of Operation Good Cheer. The annual Child and Family Services of Michigan program distributes donated Christmas gifts to children living in foster care homes, group homes or residential treatment facilities throughout Michigan.

Members of American Legion Post 51 fire volleys during a Veteran's Day celebration on Nov. 11 in Buchanan.

The sun sets on the Silver Beach Carousel on Nov. 22.

A family walks past the holiday-decorated train depot on Dec. 15 during the annual Christmas train rides at Eden Springs Park in Benton Harbor.

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Enrolling in hanger management

You know those beautifully organized closets where all the clothes neatly hang on identical hangers spaced precisely the same distance apart?

That's not our closet.

Lori Borgman

You know those closets in the movies where incredibly rich people push some button and clothes rotate in a circle like at the dry cleaners?

That's not our closet.

You know the closets that are so enormous that you could comfortably house the Anheuser-Busch draft horses alongside all the neatly organized clothes and still have enough extra space to rent the closet out on Airbnb?

That's not our closet either.

You know the comic gag where the guy opens a closet door, and clothes, shoes, a bowling ball and boxes of old tax returns and Christmas decorations fall out on top of him?

Don't make me spell it out.

Our closet is a mess, which is why I enrolled in Hanger Management. This Hanger Management is clothing-based, not to be confused with the other Hanger Management, which is food-based and deals with people who get so hungry they get angry (hangry). My Hanger Management is for those of us who come unhinged confronting a giant ball of tangled wire hangers.

What pushed me over the edge was hearing that most people wear 20 percent of their clothes 80 percent of the time.

How could that possibly be true? All that shopping for nothing?

The way to find out is to turn all your clothes hangers backward. Then, after you wear something, rehang it with the hanger hanging correctly.

I've discovered that it's extremely awkward to have your hangers hanging backward. I also discovered that the 20/80 estimate is highly probable.

Being that I am an overachiever, not content to simply monitor my own clothing, I informally monitored the husband's wardrobe choices as well. His numbers came in at roughly 2/98. He wears about 2 percent of his clothes 98 percent of the time.

Of course, he doubted my math, so I issued the "Don't Wear the Same Clothes You Tend to Wear Six Days a Week Challenge" and he took it.

He broke out a different pair of pants and shirt, prompting one of the girls to look him up and down and say, "Where are you going?"

Case closed.

Flipping all your hangers not only shows which articles of clothing you most often wear, but what colors you favor.

I apparently like black. That was not a surprise. Black dress, black pants, black shirt, black sweater – I'm good to go.

Granted, I've heard people say that black is depressing, but I've also heard people say that black is not depressing, it is poetic.

Criticize a woman's wardrobe because she likes black

There's a very good chance she'll give you a whack.

In any case, I've been purging the closet and it looks good. Or at least better. The clothes on hangers aren't perfectly aligned and uniform, but then neither are we.

Lori Borgman is a columnist, author and speaker. Email her at lori@loriborgman.com.

Abel Uribe / Chicago Tribune / TNS

Family members, friends and volunteers help carry more than 700 crosses along Michigan Avenue in Chicago on Dec. 31, 2016, in honor of those killed that year.

When the cross gets too heavy to bear

After making 27,000 crosses for mass shooting victims, man is calling it quits

By LINDA GIRARDI
Aurora (Ill.) Beacon-News

John Kringas / Chicago Tribune / TNS

Greg Zanis kneels at the cross erected Oct. 25, 1997, for Nicholas Contreras, who was killed on Nov. 10, 1996.

Stacey Wescott / Chicago Tribune / TNS

Greg Zanis stands outside his home in Aurora, Ill., with some of the crosses he made in 2016 to honor murder victims in Chicago that year.

AURORA, Ill. — Greg Zanis of Aurora, Ill., who has erected crosses for victims of mass shootings across the country, is retiring from the work that has often put him in the national spotlight.

He's made more than 27,000 crosses over the years as part of his Crosses for Losses ministry.

"I always felt this was my calling," he said.

He said he believed his work "began to show a face of the victims" of shootings around America.

In the last year he's acknowledged his ministry has become increasingly difficult to do.

"I leave a piece of my heart behind each time I go," he said last spring.

"I had a breaking point in El Paso," he said of the Aug. 3, 2019, mass shooting outside of a Walmart store in El Paso, Texas. A gunman shot and killed 22 people and injured 24 others.

"I hadn't slept for two days," he said. "It was 106 degrees, and I collapsed from the pressure when I heard there were two more victims of the mass shooting."

A trip last month to the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Fla., became a turning point, he said. Three people were killed and eight others were injured in a shooting there.

"I got as far as Indianapolis and turned back. I decided I wasn't going to do this anymore," he said.

His work has also taken a toll on his family, he said.

"I was trotting around the country, putting 5,000-6,000 miles on my truck, not even thinking of my family missing me. I did it time and again. I jumped in my truck to go to the Paradise fire in California without telling anybody," Zanis said.

He recalled Orlando, Fla., where a gunman killed 49 people at a nightclub in June 2016.

"After Orlando, it never stopped," he said of the mass shootings. "The country had me on the road for a while every week. I have driven 850,000 miles to put up crosses. I slept in my truck and never had the money to cover what I was doing."

Zanis has relied on his own resources and in recent years on donations. He received a donation of quality wood from a furniture manufacturer to make his crosses.

"I never made money. I always lost money on a steady basis. At one point last year I was $10,000 in debt and somebody covered that for me. Now I am $14,000 in debt," he said.

The first cross he made was for Nicholas "Nico" Contreras, a 6-year-old boy shot and killed in his grandparents' home in Aurora, Ill., while sleeping in their back bedroom on Nov. 10, 1996.

Zanis erected crosses after the Columbine High School massacre in April 1999 in Colorado, where two students fatally shot 12 students and a teacher.

He also placed crosses for the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in December 2012 in Newtown, Conn., where a 20-year-old shot 20 children and six staff members.

He made the trip with his crosses to Las Vegas in October 2017, when a gunman opened fire on a crowd at a music festival, killing 58 people and injuring hundreds of others.

He's also gone to the anniversaries of mass shootings, including Newtown and for the Northern Illinois University shooting in DeKalb that happened in February 2008.

It was Dec. 31, 2016, when hundreds of people carried more than 700 of his crosses in Chicago for each person slain in the city during the year. He has placed crosses on a lot in the Englewood neighborhood of Chicago for murder victims.

Earlier this year, he placed five crosses for victims of a mass shooting in his hometown of Aurora after a disgruntled worker at Henry Pratt Co., killed five employees and wounded five police officers and an employee on Feb. 15.

Zanis has approached Lutheran Charities of Northbrook about taking over his ministry.

"I feel it is not the end of the ministry. It is the end of me doing it," he said.

He may take a year to train those interested in picking up where he left off, he said.

Lutheran Charities goes out to tragedies across the country much as Zanis has done. They approach families and loved ones of victims with its K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry, founded in 2008.

Tim Hetzner, president and CEO of Lutheran Charities, said the group has been impressed with what Zanis has done.

"We met Greg probably 10 years ago responding nationally to disasters and crises, from Newtown on. He's an incredible man," Hetzner said. "We hope to carry on the good work Greg has done over the years in touching families and individuals who have experienced loss."

Comments of support and thanks have poured in on Zanis' daughter's Facebook page.

Zanis' work had a very direct meaning for him.

"I saw myself spreading love with crosses," he said.

ODD NEWS FROM THIS WEEK

Man's Corvette speared by sign on New Year's Eve

HALLANDALE BEACH, Fla. (AP) — A flying highway sign gave a driver an unwelcome New Year's Eve gift when it impaled the rear window of his Corvette during a highway mishap that left multiple vehicles damaged in south Florida.

The large highway merge sign speared the rear window of the car Tuesday afternoon on the northbound lanes of I-95. Investigators think the sign flew into the air when it was struck by another vehicle and was launched into the Corvette's windshield.

Photos from the scene showed the yellow sign jutting straight out from the shattered window. The driver wasn't hurt.

Up to five vehicles were involved in crashes while apparently trying to avoid the sign before it struck the Corvette, but no serious injuries were reported.

Cars trapped in tumbleweeds on Washington highway

WEST RICHLAND, Wash. (AP) — Some people spent part of their New Year's Eve trapped on a Washington highway after tumbleweeds blocked their route, authorities said.

The Washington State Patrol announced via Twitter at about 6:30 p.m. that State Route 240 was closed in both directions near West Richland.

Trooper Sarah Clasen said vehicles were trapped in a pile of tumbleweeds that stood up to 15 feet tall.

The state Department of Transportation used snow plows to clear the scene.

Trooper Chris Thorson said it took about 10 hours to clear the road, which opened again around 4:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Thorson said five cars and one 18-wheeler where trapped in the tumbleweeds. No injuries were reported.

"People were still stuck at midnight and rung in the new year trapped under the weeds," Thorson said.

Thorson said Wednesday troopers found one abandoned car that was trapped in the tumbleweeds at daylight but no one was inside.

Police: Woman submitted dog urine during screening

PINEVILLE, Ky. (AP) — A Kentucky woman gave her probation officer a dog urine sample during a drug screening, police said.

Julie Miller, 40, of Arjay, was arrested Monday on a charge of tampering with physical evidence, the Pineville Police Department said in a release on its Facebook page. She also was charged with a parole violation and trafficking in a controlled substance.

Miller admitted she tried to use the dog urine as her own sample given to officers at the Bell County Probation and Parole Office during a regular probation visit, the statement said.

Miller pleaded guilty in Bell County Circuit Court in November to a charge of first-degree possession of a controlled substance.

Wildlife officials remove bear from campus stadium

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A 200-pound black bear showed up as a walk-on at the University of Tennessee's baseball stadium, but ended up being sent back to its home territory.

Tennessee wildlife officials removed the wild creature that was found wandering around the Lindsey Nelson Stadium on Sunday.

A UT police officer notified the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency about the bear around 4 a.m., saying it had been wandering around campus and got stuck inside the stadium, according to a post on the agency's official Facebook page.

Sgt. Roy Smith and Wildlife Officer Jeff Roberson responded to the scene, and were able to quickly tranquilize and remove the bear with the help of UT police.

The officers released the bear into the Foothills Wildlife Management Area in Blount County later that morning. A video of the release shows the still-groggy bear stumbling off a trailer and wandering into the woods. A post accompanying the video identifies the animal as a female black bear.

Police: Amazon driver steals UPS package from home

WILKES-BARRE, Pa. (AP) — An Amazon delivery driver stole a package that was delivered earlier by UPS at a Pennsylvania home, police said.

A woman in Wilkes-Barre reported a package being stolen from her home Monday.

Surveillance footage showed a UPS driver dropping off a package at the house. Later that afternoon, an Amazon driver dropped off two packages and took the UPS package as he was leaving.

Wilkes-Barre police said charges will be filed once the Amazon driver is identified.

Pet of the Week

This is Pearl, a mama cat from Seven Star Rescue. She hopes for a home for the new year. She has glorious gray fur and gorgeous eyes. Pearl is 1 1/2 years old, current on vaccines and will be spayed and microchipped. For more information, or to adopt her, contact Seven Star Rescue at 588-0470 or find an application online at sevenstarrescue.org.

Volunteers

Kids Night Out

The YMCA is hosting a night out for kids, and volunteers are needed. The volunteers will help provide children with a fun, positive and safe evening full off crafts, games, food, swimming and socialization.

Volunteers must be at least 14 years old, pass a background check, and work well with kids.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

Helping the homeless

If you are passionate about helping the homeless, and interested in street outreach, Emergency Shelter Services is looking for volunteers to help with the PIT count.

The PIT count is a nationwide effort to tally the number of un-sheltered Americans living on the street on a single night in January.

Each year, ESS staff and area volunteers take to the streets, the woods, the food pantries, the warming station, and hard-to-reach places to get an official count of the homeless in our area.

ESS staff and volunteers take care kits, blankets, gloves, hats, resource cards and more with them. Training provided.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

Create seasonal window displays

The Emergency Shelter Services Resale Store finds a second home for gently used goods with proceeds supporting the functions of ESS' shelter and its clients.

The store is always having goods donated, and volunteers are needed to help create fun, seasonal interior window displays, and sort items that come in. Any size group is welcome.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

Do you love numbers?

Do you love numbers and want to volunteer with the most effective program to help move people out of poverty?

Sign up for VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance): the volunteer opportunity that makes an impact all year round.

Receiving the full potential of a tax refund is crucial in helping families in need move toward sustainability. Volunteer as often as you'd like to make a lasting impact in our community.

United Way will provide all training to become an IRS-certified tax preparer.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

United Way of Southwest Michigan

The Herald-Palladium, in conjunction with the United Way of Southwest Michigan, publishes volunteer opportunities every Saturday.

To view all current listings, please visit United Way of Southwest Michigan's volunteer page at **uwsm.org/volunteer.**

Serve on a board

The Domestic Violence Coalition is looking for volunteer board members.

Meetings are from 5:30-7 p.m. the first Tuesday of every month in Paw Paw.

For position details, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

Join the local food movement

The Southwest Michigan Local Food Council is a collective of advocates that takes evidence-based actions toward the development of an equitable regional food system that values local farmers and entrepreneurs. The council is seeking volunteers to join their working groups.

The Joy for our Food Working Group invites those interested in sharing food and culture and growing a local food movement in Southwest Michigan to join.

The Abundance and Fairness of Our Food Working Group centers around supporting beginning farmers and increasing the amount of locally-produced foods served in schools, hospitals and other institutional food service operations.

The Growing Infrastructure for Our Food Working Group is about improving resources that support a local food system.

For more information, or to sign up for a group, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

Help empower young people

A want versus a need. How to balance a checkbook. Don't you wish someone had taught you those things as you were growing up? Now there is someone: you.

Junior Achievement is looking for volunteers. All it takes is your enthusiasm, life experience and a willingness to teach children about how you took chances and shot for the stars.

Junior Achievement provides the training and the curriculum.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

Give. Advocate. Volunteer.

United Way of Southwest Michigan mobilizes the caring power of communities to fight for the health, education and financial stability of every person. Volunteering your time and talent to create lasting solutions that improve life for everyone is an important part in United Way accomplishing this work. Volunteer today and join the fight, by visiting www.uwsm.org.

Volunteer to help seniors avoid falls

Christine Vanlandingham
Generations

The best New Year's resolutions are ones that make our collective lives better.

If you're looking for something meaningful to add to your resolution list this year, consider becoming A Matter of Balance volunteer coach. It can add meaning and purpose to your life – and quite literally add years to the lives of others.

Chances are you know someone who has fallen or who is afraid of falling.

Falls are the leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries for older Americans. Falls threaten seniors' safety and independence, and generate enormous economic and personal costs.

However, falling is not an inevitable result of aging. Through practical lifestyle adjustments and evidence-based falls prevention programs, like A Matter of Balance, the number of falls among seniors can be substantially reduced.

Each year, about $50 billion is spent on non-fatal fall injuries of adults 65 and older, and $754 million is spent on fatal falls. As the number of Americans 65 and older grows, we can expect the number of fall injuries, and the cost to treat these injuries, to soar.

The latest Centers for Disease Control and Prevention annual cost report shows the total cost of falls in Michigan was $1.5 billion.

The CDC direct medical costs figures do not account for the long-term effects of these injuries, such as disability, dependence on others, lost time from work and household duties, and reduced quality of life.

Falls can be deadly, debilitating and financially devastating. The good news is most, if not all, falls can be prevented. And you can be a part of the solution.

Falls prevention courses such as A Matter of Balance, an evidence-based course designed and tested by at the Roybal Center at Boston University, are proven to help. Class participants learn to manage their concerns about falls, increase activity, view falls as controllable, and make changes to reduce fall risks at home.

The Area Agency on Aging is hosting a training session for A Matter of Balance volunteer coaches later this month. Coaches help class participants become more confident about managing falls, help to identify ways to reduce falls and lead exercises to help increase strength and balance.

Volunteer coaches receive eight hours of training, staff support and materials to enable them to successfully lead classes in their community.

There is no cost for the training or supplies. A commitment to lead at least one class in your community after completing the training is the only return asked of volunteer coaches.

Requirements for coaches include good communication and interpersonal skills; enthusiasm, dependability and a willingness to lead a small group of older adults; and an ability to lead low- to moderate-level exercise.

The upcoming volunteer coach training session will be from 1-5 p.m. Jan. 21 and 23 at the Region IV AAA, 2900 Lakeview Ave., St. Joseph.

To register for the training, or for more information, contact Julie Schwarz, education coordinator and Matter of Balance master trainer, at 982-7759 or julieschwarz@areaagency onaging.org.

If you're concerned about falling and would like to participate in an upcoming course, call Julie to learn when the next one will be in your community.

Christine Vanlandingham is chief operating officer of Region IV Area Agency on Aging in Southwest Michigan. Questions on age or independence services? Call the Info-Line for Aging & Disability at 800-654-2810 or visit www.areaagencyonaging.org. The Generations column appears each Saturday in The Herald-Palladium.

The path to real happiness

Gregory Owen
Insights

Happy New Year!

The only thing "new" about the year 2020 is the number attached to it. The world is getting older.

We in the United States account for 10 percent of the world's population and consume 80 percent of the world's goods. We are making the world older by our greed.

The Declaration of Independence states that certain unalienable rights have been granted to us by our creator, and protected by our government.

"Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," do not have the same meaning for everyone, and they are not equally available to everyone.

When does the right to life begin? In the womb or after birth? To what extent are we free? Until we hurt ourselves or others? How far can we push our "pursuit" for happiness? Can we be dishonest in our dealings with others or break the law?

Today, the meaning of happiness has been reduced to an almost exclusively emotional state. Happiness is predominantly seen as nothing more than a mood.

The question, "Am I happy?" can be answered with "No, I'm not happy, but I may be after I get some ice cream."

Today's dictionaries reflect this reduction: "feeling or showing pleasure." But a closer look reveals that happiness is rooted in contentment and being joyful.

In the ancient Christian tradition, which preserves God's revelation of truth to man, authentic contentment, a state of peaceful happiness, joy and satisfaction, is rooted in accepting God's will.

Either we submit ourselves to the will of God, or we submit ourselves to the will of our adversary. We trust God for everything.

It doesn't mean we don't want to improve ourselves, or the world. It means the faith of Christ is the only path that offers real happiness, joy and renewal of all things – including time and the years that seem to rush by.

By trusting in God's providence, and desiring salvation over everything else, we Christians accept all that comes to us throughout the day with peace of soul and with firm conviction that God's will governs all.

When we want what we already have, we have everything we want. When we desire what God has already given to us, we are constantly achieving our goal.

As the angst of being a consumer, lusting with every fiber of our being for that 80 percent of the world's goods, begins to die down in us, we find our minds and hearts freed up to actually be happy and begin working on God's plan for us.

Authentic life lies in the truth that all the things we are trying to avoid (difficulty, discomfort, hardship, conflict, self-sacrifice, hunger, weariness, loss, etc.) are actually the very opportunities allowed by God for us to grow.

Rest is necessary, and given by God in due season, but growth only occurs during times of struggle.

Or as St. Theophan puts it, "You will not find one saved person who was not a cross-bearer. It is for this reason that everyone is surrounded by crosses on all sides – so that we will not be hampered by having to look for crosses to bear, and so that we will not be far from the saving power of Christ's cross. Look around yourself and you will see your cross. Bear it as you should, uniting it with Christ's cross, and you will be saved."

This is what allows St. Paul to proclaim, "We rejoice in our suffering."

Rejoicing is a power we seldom use anymore. We are rarely even familiar with it. When we are distracted by longings for what we don't have, joy escapes us.

If we think of happiness as a feeling that comes over us occasionally, it's important to know that rejoicing is a force of will, a choice, that sustains happiness indefinitely.

"Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus," Paul wrote in his letter to the Philippians.

Desire for what we don't have creates spiritual depression (dependency). Gratitude for what we do have creates contentment and joy.

Let us practice this. Turn off the commercial-driven TV, close the advertisement-filled magazines, smartphones and romantic novels.

Contentment awaits us in the prayerful thanksgiving for what we actually have. In the context of our actual life, what awaits us is peace, satisfaction, salvation and even perfection.

What "Happy New Year" should mean to us is: "Be joyful in the knowledge that Christ's return is closer than it ever has been."

Today's Insights was written by Gregory Owen the priest at St. Joseph Orthodox Church in Baroda. Insights is written by area clergy to give different viewpoints on a variety of topics. It is published each Saturday in cooperation with the Berrien County Association of Churches. The views expressed by the author do not necessarily reflect the views of member churches.

Church Notes

The Rev. Mary Beth Moran Cross will be the guest preacher at **Zion St. Joe United Church of Christ**, 3001 Veronica Drive, St. Joseph, at 10 a.m. Sunday.

Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 1200 W. Glenlord Road, St. Joseph, will hold its monthly contemporary, discussion-driven service, Morning WATCH, at 11:10 a.m. Sunday.

Church Notes is a free listing, published each Saturday as a public service. Announcements are due by noon Wednesday. Late items will not be published. The editor reserves the right to edit for space and style. Incomplete information may not be published. First and last names should be furnished.

Pictures submitted should include names of those shown. Pictures can be picked up at our office within 30 days of publication, or can be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. Send items to: Church Notes, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; fax to 429-4398 or email to focus@TheHP.com. Items should include a daytime phone number.

Bazaars

NILES: The Sweet Charity Sewing Group will host "Leap Year Cure for Cabin Fever Indoor Shop Hop" from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 29 at St. John's United Church of Christ, 601 Sycamore St. Admission is $5. There will be quilting-related items for sale. Food will be provided by Brew Ha Ha. For more info, contact Cathy Marsh at 362-4314 or Sherri Wade at 782-9384.

Worship Services

These area Congregations warmly invite you to attend

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AN EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
4250 Washington Ave., St. Joseph
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Series: Colossians ~ Falling Before the Supreme and Sufficient One
Title: "Evangelizing Through Right conduct", Colossians 4:5-6
Worship 9:00 & 10:35 AM
Sunday School 9:00 & 10:35 AM
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Get ready for a nasty 2020 presidential campaign

Jonah Goldberg

Here's a fun New Year's prediction for you: The 2020 presidential campaign will be even uglier than the 2016 contest.

In part, that's due to President Trump's incumbency. In 2016, Trump almost surely did not think he'd win. Throughout his campaign, he would drop hints about an "exit strategy." Exiles and members in good standing of Trump World admit both on and off the record that his was a protest candidacy or a publicity stunt.

In other words, President Trump in 2020 has a lot more to lose than Candidate Trump had in 2016.

Second, there's no evidence that Trump has matured – "grown," in D.C. parlance – with the job. He insists that being "presidential" is not an option because that would be "boring." His willingness to use the nearest weapon to hand, rhetorically, is undiminished. But the resources at his disposal – both his official powers and his ability to employ traditional and social media – are greatly enhanced. Candidate Trump could not pressure a foreign power to help muddy a political opponent. President Trump could and almost certainly did.

Third, unlike in 2016, when he was executing a hostile takeover of a party and a conservative media establishment that simultaneously disliked him and underestimated him, Trump now has the support of both.

Last, the Trump presidency, unlike the Reagan presidency, has not elicited from the Democrats the kind of seriousness of mind about electability that pulled the Democrats back to the center. In response to Trump's election, the Democrats have even moved to the left of Barack Obama, leaving Obama's 77-year-old, gaffe-prone vice president, Joe Biden, to run almost alone as a politically moderate candidate.

We're already seeing evidence of how the campaign will go. Here are two recent examples.

First, on Friday night, the president retweeted (and then deleted) a post naming the whistleblower in the Ukraine affair. If Candidate Trump had done something like that, criticism from the right would have been deafening.

Then on Sunday night, at an event in Milford, N.H., the famously tactile Biden was greeted by a handful of protesters. "Don't touch kids, you pervert!" one man, who claimed not to be a Trump supporter, shouted. A woman started a brief chant of "Quid Pro Joe!"

For the record, Biden isn't a pervert; he's an all-too-handsy politician from a bygone era of glad-handing, back-slapping and hugging. But, given the new rules of the #MeToo era, it's easy enough to make the insinuation, and several Democrats have – a small example of how the hothouse atmosphere of Very Online Liberalism undermines electability.

It would be informative if a reporter had confirmed whether the protesters were free agents, Trump plants or emissaries for one of Biden's Democratic rivals. But in the big picture it doesn't really matter, because Trump boosters and even the mainstream media were eager to give the incident the kind of social media virality Team Trump loves. Countless Twitter accounts used the incident to spread the charge, often sprinkled with the kind of sobriquet Trump loves, "Dirty Joe."

Of course, that nickname is useful for the other charge near and dear to Trump World: that it's Biden who's corrupt, not the president. At times the argument becomes a kind of dysfunctional Mobius strip. "Quid Pro Quo Joe," they claim, outrageously did what Trump is accused of by improperly pressuring the Ukrainian government. (Evidence of this is scant.) But if Trump improperly pressured the Ukrainians (as ample evidence suggests) would that be an outrage? "Of course not! All foreign policy is about quid pro quo!"

If Biden becomes the Democratic nominee, this is precisely how the campaign will play out: a kind of louder echo of 2016. A vast endeavor of "I know you are but what am I?" in which the president invites the machinery at his disposal to muddy the waters enough that everyone seems equally dirty. As with his campaign against Hillary Clinton, the president can't make a majority like him, but he can certainly turn voters against his opponent.

The Trump campaign didn't concoct the 2016 PizzaGate conspiracy theory (that the Clintons had something to do with a pedophile ring in a D.C. pizza joint). But he gave enough of a signal boost to the trolls – with retweets and interviews – that the line demarcating outrageous behavior moved far enough to make his antics seem in bounds. Now, Trump's antics are, by definition, presidential and the policy of the GOP.

Of course, Biden might not be the nominee. But there's no reason to believe that would change Trump's behavior, when the presidency hasn't. And the other possible nominees are sufficiently left wing to make Trump's job even easier.

So cheer up, the worst is yet to come.

Jonah Goldberg is an editor-in-chief of The Dispatch.

Times change but human nature doesn't

Cal Thomas

It can be useful and instructive to observe the turning of a decade by looking back on what life was like in America a mere 100 years ago.

On Jan. 2, 1920, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was 108.76. Today it is over 28,000 points.

In 1920, the U.S. had become an economic power, which is remarkable considering the bloody "war to end all wars" that ended just two years earlier. Republican presidents shifted their attention from foreign entanglements to economic growth (sound familiar?).

The beginning of the Roaring '20s featured new rights for women, including the right to vote, daring flapper outfits and cigarette smoking. It also included Prohibition, which led to the rise of Al Capone and the Mafia. People should have been convinced that attempts to regulate human behavior by government fiat only works if the public is willing to obey the law, which in the case of liquor it clearly was not.

The one thing that hasn't changed in the last 100 years – and for that matter since the first humans walked the Earth – is human nature. One can change styles of clothing and hair, change modes of transportation, even change politicians, but human nature never changes. Greed, lust and the quest for power are embedded in each of us in every generation.

The impact of the Industrial Revolution found more people living in big cities than on farms for the first time beginning in 1920. That year also launched what we today call the "consumer society." America's total wealth more than doubled between 1920 and 1929.

As the website history.com notes: People from coast to coast bought the same goods (thanks to nationwide advertising and the spread of chain stores), listened to the same music, did the same dances and even used the same slang. Many Americans were uncomfortable with this urban, sometimes racy mass culture, and for many people in the U.S., the 1920s brought more conflict than celebration.

Isn't it the same today? Have we learned nothing? The tension between people with opposing political and social views and religious beliefs has increased these past 100 years because of contemporary social media and the 24/7 news cycle in which revolution sells better than resolution.

Cars, washing machines, new forms of birth control and other creations gave especially women new freedoms. Radio united the nation and phonograph records, which sold 100 million in 1927 alone, created a common culture, even if some older people didn't like the "modern" music.

As with Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley in the 1940s and '50s, some older folks in the 1920s rejected the dance hall lifestyle and what they saw as the vulgarity and depravity of jazz music and the moral erosion they claimed it caused. But for the younger generation, it was a new world in which the future looked bright.

What will America be like in 2120? In 1920 no one could have foreseen a Great Depression, or a second World War, much less the prosperity and cultural changes that would come, or the threat of nuclear annihilation.

The saying that "the more things change, the more they remain the same" has never seemed more accurate and providential.

Happy new decade!

Cal Thomas is a columnist for Tribune Content Agency.

LETTERS

Thank you for the kindness shown at Roma's

Editor,

What a wonderful day Sunday, Dec. 29, was for a group of 11 church members.

After church the group went to Roma's in Bridgman for brunch. Upon leaving, we were told that our meals were all paid for. Not knowing who this wonderful person or persons are, we need to say thank you very much. We had a blessed Sunday and will have a great 2020.

Thank you again. God bless you!

Paul Miller
Stevensville

Christians have good reason to support Trump

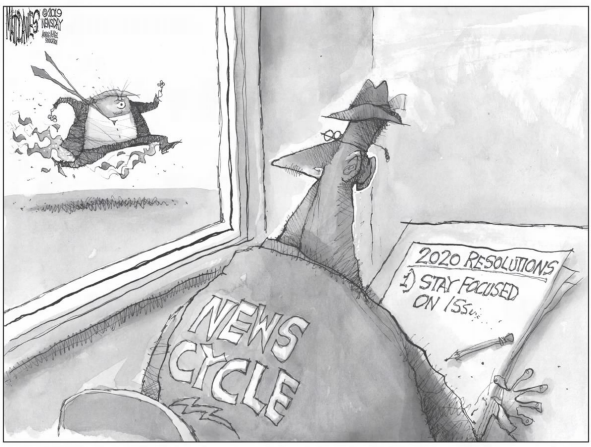
Editor,

I was surprised and delighted to read Dennis Prager's column, "Supporting Trump isn't immoral," in the Dec. 27 issue. Mr. Prager explains clearly why many conservative, Bible-believing Christians, like myself, support our president. I agree with everything he writes, but he doesn't mention the most important moral issue: abortion. The deliberate killing of unborn children – even late-term or "partial-birth" abortion (and in some cases selling the body parts for medical research) – is far more immoral than any of Mr. Trump's tweets. Not one single Democrat politician has spoken out against this horror, but Mr. Trump and many Republicans have.

I would prefer a president of high moral character who never says anything crude or derogatory about women or about his opponents, and who is faithful to and still married to his original wife. Unfortunately, Donald Trump is not the first morally challenged man to occupy the oval office. Presidents Kennedy and Clinton were notorious womanizers who even did it during their terms in the White House. President Johnson was known to be a very crude man, but at that time Twitter and other social media did not exist.

President Trump's opponents will have the opportunity to vote against him in November. Let the American voters decide whether he deserves to continue in office.

Mary G. Spaulding
St. Joseph



Federal setbacks to nuclear energy will harm climate and raise costs for states

By CAROL BROWNER

There is no time to lose in the fight against climate change. We cannot afford to take a single step backward. Yet while we should be running headlong into smart, collaborative and long-term solutions that help mitigate the immediate climate crisis, our federal regulators have instead jeopardized the good progress made toward transitioning our energy systems to zero-carbon sources.

Appointees of President Donald Trump at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission just adopted a new rule that requires energy sources receiving state subsidies – for example, renewables and nuclear power – to bid at a higher price in the wholesale electricity market. Ostensibly the rule was meant to preserve competition. But instead, it will become more difficult and expensive for Illinois and other states in the region to pursue policies that support zero-carbon energy sources such as nuclear, wind, solar and other renewables. Ignoring decisions by the Illinois legislature to manage its own energy portfolio, the decision forces clean, carbon-free energy off the grid. That clean energy will mostly be replaced by highly polluting sources such as coal and natural gas that are cheaper and can bid at a lower cost.

The result of this new rule will be an inherent favoring of fossil fuels over cleaner forms of electricity generation. And as we know, increasing production from these sources will lead to an immediate increase in carbon emissions, harmful pollutants and particulate matter, which directly impacts environmental and public health – putting lives at risk.

The rule also undermines Illinois' largest source of carbon-free energy – nuclear power. Illinois ranks first in the nation in net electricity generation from nuclear power, with facilities providing more than half of the state's total electricity. In 2018, nuclear energy production in Illinois avoided adding tens of millions of tons of carbon pollution into the air. If Illinois' six nuclear facilities become at risk for closure, the result would most likely be a dramatic increase in the burning of fossil fuels.

The state also enjoys growing production from numerous renewable sources such as wind and solar. However, that growth will quickly be stifled and ultimately undone by the new order because of a dramatic decrease in revenue from these sources.

Not only is the environment affected, so too are Illinoisans' pocketbooks. In his dissent to the decision, Commissioner Richard Glick estimated the total cost to consumers of this policy change could be as much as $2.4 billion per year. According to a recent study, the new rule could cost Illinoisans more than $800 million per year, increasing electricity costs by 60% compared to today's prices.

The good news is the Illinois General Assembly has the opportunity to step in to ensure the state can meet the goal of Gov. J.B. Pritzker's administration to use 100% clean energy by 2030 and protect Illinois consumers and the state's environment. Legislators in the state must choose: Will they take action to move the state forward on clean and affordable energy? Or will they allow federal and out-of-state regulators to decide how Illinois' energy future will work?

Interference from the commission is picking winners and losers in electricity production and will cost consumers money and endanger public health. Now is the time for action. Allowing the commission to undermine Illinois' clean energy sources would set the state back years in its fight against climate change. This is a mistake that Illinois – much less any other state – cannot afford.

Carol Browner is a member of the Nuclear Matters Advocacy Council, a former director of the White House Office of Energy and Climate Change Policy and former administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. He wrote this for the Chicago Tribune.

Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

E-mail: letters@TheHP.com

Regular mail: Editorial Page, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085

Fax: 269-429-4398

All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. The Herald-Palladium reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, grammar, inappropriate content and libel. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Prime Time TV

SATURDAY EVENING JAN. 4

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC (7) (13) (41) (57)	To Be Announced	Brad Paisley Thinks He's Special		The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	20/20	
CBS (2) (3) (22)	NFL Football	To Be Announced		To Be Announced		48 Hours (N)	
NBC (5) (8) (16)	NFL Football	Dateline NBC				Saturday Night Live "Drake"	
FOX (17) (22) (28) (32)	To Be Announced	NFL Football Wild Card: Teams TBA. (N) (L)					
PBS (34)	Lawrence Welk	Antiques Roadshow "St. Louis"		As Time Goes By	As Time Goes By	Keep-Appear	Keep-Appear
CW (25)	Big Bang Theory	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	News	Cops Sting.
MNT (50)	Graham Bensinger	AHL Hockey Iowa Wild at Chicago Wolves. From Allstate Arena in Rosemont, Ill. (N) (L)					
WCIU (26)	2 Broke Girls	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Bob's Burgers
WHME (46)	:00 Heartland	Heartland "Dare to Dream"		Murdoch Mysteries (DVS)		Murdoch Mysteries (DVS)	
WGN (9)	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	WGN Weekend News at Nine (N)	
A&E	5:00 Live PD	:06 Live PD: Rewind (N)		Live PD "Live PD -- 01.04.20" (N) (L)			
AMC	Night Museum	★ Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen ('09, Action) Shia LaBeouf, Megan Fox, Josh Duhamel. (PG)					
Animal	Pit Bulls	Pit Bulls-Parole		Pit Bulls-Parole		:04 The Vet Life (N)	
BET	Soul	★ White Chicks ('04, Comedy) Shawn Wayans.					
Big Ten	Basket	B1G	B1G	B1G	B1G	BTN Basketball in 60	
Bravo	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	★★ Couples Retreat ('09, Comedy) Vince Vaughn.		
Cartoon	Apple	Dragon	Dragon	Burgers	Burgers	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy
Cinemax	Shanghai Knights	★★ Meet the Fockers ('04) Robert De Niro. Future in-laws clash in Florida.				9:55 ★ Little Fockers ('10)	
CMT	★★ Overboard ('87, Comedy) Goldie Hawn.					★★★ Grease	
CNBC	Boss	Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss	
CNN	News	CNN Newsroom		Linda Ronstadt: The Sound of My Voice			
Comedy	6:50 ★★★ 21 Jump Street ('12)			★★ Super Troopers ('01)			
Discovery	:00 Dirty Jobs	Alaskan Bush People		Alaskan Bush People "Wedding Season" The family prepares for a wedding. (N)			
Disney	Bunk'd	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Gabby	Gabby
DIY	Barnwood	Flippers	Flippers	Flippers	Flippers	Flippers	Flippers
E!	:00 ★★ He's Just Not That Into You				★ Sweet Home Alabama		
ESPN	SportCtr	College Basketball Teams TBA. (N) (L)				SportsCenter (N)	
ESPN2	Basket	College Basketball Texas at Baylor. (N)				College Basketball	
ESPNC	Football	College Football From Dec. 28, 2007.				College Football	
Food	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
Fox News	Life	Watters' World (N)		Justice With Jeanine		Greg Gutfeld	
Fox Sports	Every	Pistons	NBA Basketball: Pistons at Warriors				
Freeform	:10 ★ The Waterboy ('98) Adam Sandler, Kathy Bates.			:15 ★★★ Pitch Perfect ('12, Musical Comedy) Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin.			
FX	Life of Pets	★★ Despicable Me 3 ('17) Voices of Steve Carell, Kristen Wiig, Trey Parker.				★★ Despicable Me 3 ('17)	
Golf	PGA Golf	Golf Central (N)		PGA Golf			
Hallmark	:00 Christmas at the Plaza ('19) Elizabeth Henstridge.			★ Winter in Vail ('20) Lacey Chabert. A woman inherits her uncle's chalet.			
HBO	Mrs. Doubtfire	★★ The Aftermath ('19) Keira Knightley, Alexander Skarsgard. (P)				Fantastic Beasts: Crimes	
History	Aliens	Ancient Aliens: Declassified (N)					
HGTV	Fixer	Beach	Beach	Island	Island	Bahamas	Bahamas
Learning	Say Yes	Say Yes to the Dress (SP)) (N)				Say Yes, Dress	
Lifetime	Surviving R. Kelly	Surviving R. Kelly R. Kelly is taken into federal custody.				Hopelessly in Love A pop star and an NFL player. (N)	
MSNBC	Hardball	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Bulls	NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Chicago Bulls. (N)					Postgame
NFL	NFL GameDay High.	GameDay	GameDay	GameDay	GameDay	GameDay	GameDay
Nick	The SpongeBob Musical			Henry Danger		Friends	Friends
NGEO	Lock	Lockdown		Lockdown: On		Lockdown	
Oxygen	:00 Snapped	Snapped "Theresa Voss"		Snapped "Judy Flanagan"		Snapped "Rebecca Braswell"	
Parmt	The Green Mile ('99)	★★★ The Green Mile ('99) Tom Hanks.					
Showtime	:00 ★★★ Pavarotti ('19, Documentary) Bono.			★★ The Upside ('17) Kevin Hart, Bryan Cranston. (P)			
Starz	Jackie Brown	★★★ XXX ('02) Vin Diesel. A spy tries to stop an anarchist with weapons.				:07 Dublin Murders "Episode 108"	
STZENC	Lethal Weapon	7:52 ★★★ Lethal Weapon 2 ('89, Action) Mel Gibson, Danny Glover.				9:49 ★★★ Lethal Weapon 3 ('92)	
SyFy	6:30 ★★★ Edge of Tomorrow ('14) Tom Cruise.			★★★★ E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial ('82) Henry Thomas, Dee Wallace.			
TBS	:00 ★★ Liar Liar ('97, Comedy) Jim Carrey. (DVS)			Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory
TCM	Every Which	★★★★ Sounder ('72, Drama) Cicely Tyson, Paul Winfield, Kevin Hooks.				★★★ Louisiana Story ('48)	
TMC	:15 ★ Peppermint ('18, Action) Jennifer Garner.			★★ Hell Fest ('18) Amy Forsyth, Reign Edwards.			Blood Fest ('18)
TNT	Eagle	★★ Red 2 ('13, Action) Bruce Willis.				:15 ★★ Red	
Travel	Paranorm.	Paranormal Caught on Camera				Haunted Hospitals	
TV Land	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men
USA	6:30 ★ XXx: Return of Xander Cage			★★ The Hitman's Bodyguard ('17, Action) Ryan Reynolds, Samuel L. Jackson, Gary Oldman. (DVS)			
VH1	★★ Daddy's Little Girls ('07) Gabrielle Union.					★ Good Deeds	
WGN-A	:00 Blue Bloods	Blue Bloods "After Hours"		Blue Bloods "Little Fish"		Blue Bloods "Family Ties"	

Bride's choice of groomsman brings back painful memories

DEAR ABBY: I am a 37-year-old man who is getting married for the first time. My fiancee, "Holly," and I went to middle school and high school together, but never really got to know each other until a few years ago. I love her more than words can describe, and I'm happy to be getting ready to spend my life with her.

Growing up, I was socially awkward, partly due to having Asperger's, which made me a target for bullies. Holly and I are now choosing our wedding party. My sister will be one of her bridesmaids. Holly is an only child, so she doesn't have a brother who could be one of my groomsmen. She has expressed that she would like her cousin "Gerald" to be one of my groomsmen, so someone from her family is in our wedding party.

The problem is, Gerald was my main tormentor from eighth grade all through high school. At one point in 10th grade, he cruelly lied to my attempting suicide. I carry the scar from the attempt on my right wrist.

I understand that people change and mature as they grow older, and I'm OK with Gerald attending the wedding. But the idea of him standing next to me on the biggest day of my life, along with my best friend and two closest cousins, triggers too many awful memories. How can I plead this to Holly without hurting her feelings or looking shallow and petty? – Nervous Groom-To-Be

DEAR GROOM-TO-BE: Shallow and petty? The scar on your wrist is visible, but clearly there are others, equally painful, that are not. I don't think it would come across as either shallow or petty if you explain to your fiancee, exactly as you have explained it to me, why you prefer Gerald not be at the altar with you on the most important day of your life. This is something Holly should have been made aware of before the two of you set a wedding date. Do it now.

Jeanne Phillips

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I've been an alcoholic since I was 21. I was married for 19 years, and my drinking was at its worst toward the end. I was selfish toward my wife and my daughter. Since then, I have learned many hard lessons that could have been avoided if only I had never drunk.

I have apologized to my ex-wife for my actions. I was never violent, but I embarrassed her and my daughter with behavior that I'm ashamed of. After our divorce, I made a few more mistakes and finally sought help. I'm in a Christian-based rehab program and have chosen to follow this path for the rest of my life.

Over the last six months I have sent texts and a few letters to my daughter, hoping for an acknowledgment or some dialogue, to no avail. Since being at rehab, I've written her about my feelings and some small talk, always ending my letter telling her she's the love of my heart, and I miss her. Is there anything else I can do? – Hoping And Praying In Nashville

DEAR HOPING: Yes, there is one more thing you can do. Because she may consider your words nothing but lip service, make an attempt to visit her so she can SEE the change in you. Accept that damage has been done, and you cannot alter the past. Continue living your life on the path you have chosen and pray that, with time, your daughter will recognize that you have turned your life around and let you back in to hers.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Caring for intimidatingly 'beautiful, elegant and accomplished' mother-in-law

Adapted from a recent online discussion.

DEAR CAROLYN: My husband is overseas for work, and his mother has been hospitalized with double pneumonia.

He has asked me to go check on her every day and then, if necessary, coordinate help for her when she gets home. He said if I'm not comfortable doing that, he can end his trip early.

I'm very awkward with his mother. She is a beautiful, elegant and accomplished woman, and I feel like a clod around her. She is nice to me, but I am sure she believes her son could have married better.

I'm not even sure how much she will appreciate having me intrude on her in the hospital, though she has said she would be glad to have me.

How do I approach this? Do you have any good tricks for cutting through initial awkwardness? – Awkwardville

DEAR AWKWARDVILLE: If she actually "believes her son could have married better," then she's not "beautiful, elegant and accomplished," she's a snob.

If.

So, *if* she is a snob, then go, be yourself, be as helpful as you can, know it's finite, don't stay longer than 30 minutes, and call it an act of love for your husband.

If instead you're right about the "beautiful, elegant and accomplished," then please consider you're wrong about how she sees you. Maybe she even wonders and laments that you keep her at arm's length.

Carolyn Hax

Either way, the best awkwardness prevention tactic is to help. Find out what she needs, talk to the care team to the extent you're allowed, bring something to brighten the room or help her occupy her time.

Ask your husband and also think hard about her interests, so you can bring something apt.

If you can't think of anything on your own, then bring a cheery little potted plant and ask what you can fetch her to help pass the time. Books, e-books, magazines, podcasts.

Hospitalized people want visitors to come, then want visitors to go – but only after they lend their mobility to get a few things done.

Readers' thoughts:

■ Just imagine her saying, "I used to think my son could have done better, but I now understand what he sees in her."

■ You can ask her if she wants a special snack, or her perfume, or her tweezers and a magnifying mirror, does she want you to wash her hair? What about going to her house and checking on her mail? Maybe you can do some texting for her.

When she comes home, have a tray on her bed with her hand lotion, phone, memo pad and pen, some magazines, tissues, maybe a small snack.

■ This is a great opportunity to get to know your mother-in-law, if she's open to it. Ask her if there are any card or board games she likes and bring a few to play together (great way to break the ice). Or, you could listen to a podcast together and then discuss it.

■ When my dad was hospitalized, one of the best things I could do was to bring my laptop so we could stream movies.

■ Your MIL will be exhausted. Stock the fridge, get the mail, change her sheets before she comes home. Arrange for meal delivery or leave meals in the fridge. She'll think you're an angel.

Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

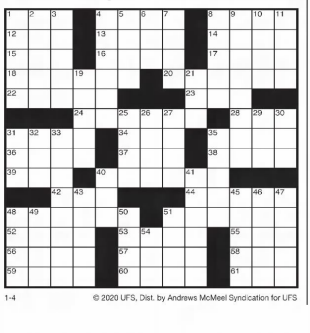
Crossword

ACROSS
1 Volume booster
4 Nearly all
8 Wild guess
12 "Skip to My —"
13 The chills
14 Designer Chanel
15 Shiny metal
16 Wolfish look
17 Emanation
18 Mr. Bunker
20 Horse trough
22 Detox locale
23 Powdery residue
24 Major banking center
28 Snaky fish
31 Icicle locale
34 Actress — Hagen
35 "Green Gables" redhead
36 Spotted, as a horse
37 Ore. neighbor
38 Classroom sound
39 Prince Valiant's eldest
40 Building material
42 Owed right now
44 Any Elvis recording
48 Sharper
51 Hanging on the line
52 The A in EA
53 Stay afloat
55 Stray dog
56 Ceremony
57 Mel's Diner waitress
58 Before now
59 Noted limerick maker
60 Rind
61 Firmed up

DOWN
1 Sacred place
2 Ripple pattern
3 Sock
4 Beach near Los Angeles
5 Type of arch
6 Bring action
7 Semester
8 Examines
9 Makes sturdier
10 Land unit
11 Wild tusker
19 Made misty
21 Contented murmur
25 Old Norse poem
26 News article
27 Prehistoric dwelling
29 Jr. naval officer
30 Sanctioned
31 DDT banner
32 Diver's need
33 Feud
35 Suitably
40 Passing grade
41 Same as always
43 Bobby of Indy fame
45 Minces
46 Get acclimated
47 Heron
48 Maldon or Marx
49 Toledo's lake
50 Party-thrower's plea
51 Really bad
54 Minuscule

Answer to Previous Puzzle

C	L	A	M		A	M	T		D	E	N	
O	I	L	E	R		H	A	P	E			
G	L	I	D	E		O	C	E	A	N	I	C
			I	C	K	Y		S	L	A	C	K
	O	S	A	K	A		N	E	T			
M	A	T		O	R	E	O		O	D	D	S
U	K	E		N	A	B	S		S	A	R	I
M	E	N	U		O	A	T	H		M	O	D
S	N	O	O		K	Y	R	A		O	N	E
			O	D	E			I	R	E	N	E
A	L	G	A	E		A	L	D	A			
W	A	I	T	I	N	G		E	G	G	E	D
R	U	G		G	E	E		R	E	A	D	Y
Y	D	S		N	O	D		R	I	S	E	



1-4

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Jumble

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

OWSNO

UVNEE

RAYTAS

DUROAN

This farmer has made good money on billboards.
He wants more.
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble
THE BILLBOARDS WERE SO PROFITABLE, THEY DECIDED TO ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the cartoon.

"_____"

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WORRY HONEY PIGLET GRATIS
Answer: The Hoover Dam hydroelectric facility, built in the 30's, has proven its — STAYING POWER

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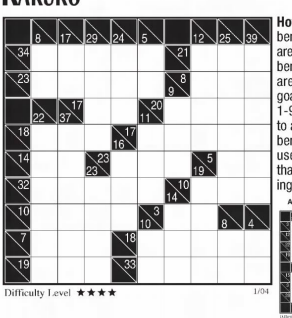
Kakuro



Difficulty Level ★★★★ 1/04

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.

Answer to previous puzzle

Bridge

The International Bridge Press Association's Personality of 2019 was Michal Klukowski. At 23, he is easily the youngest winner of this award.

Born in Poland, but now representing Monaco in major championships, he won his first national title in 2011 when 15. The next year, he was on the Polish team that won the Youngsters (under 21) World Team Championship. Since then, Klukowski has won three open world team titles, two Rosenblums and one Bermuda Bowl, and another world youth championship.

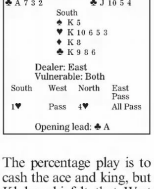
His partner on the Monaco team is Piotr Gawrys, who won his first world title, the 1984 Team Olympiad, 12 years before Klukowski was born!

Klukowski learned to play the game when nine. His parents were keen players and encouraged him to take classes at their town bridge club.

Klukowski read his opponent well in this deal from a world championship match between Monaco and Lavazza. At both tables, the contract was four hearts, and each West led the club ace, then cashed the diamond ace.

At the other table, Geir Helgemo (West) played a second diamond at trick three. The declarer did not work out what to do from there.

Against Klukowski, West cashed the spade ace at trick three. Now, with a discard available on the spade queen, declarer just had to draw trumps.



The percentage play is to cash the ace and king, but Klukowski felt that West thought he had a fourth defensive trick. So, Klukowski cashed the heart king, then played a heart to dummy's jack. When that held, Klukowski drew the last trump and claimed.

Sudoku

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

		3		8	6		4	7
					7			8
				3		9	5	
	5						8	2
	7			2			6	
4	8						3	
	3	6		9				
5				3				
8	9			6	5		4	

1/01

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

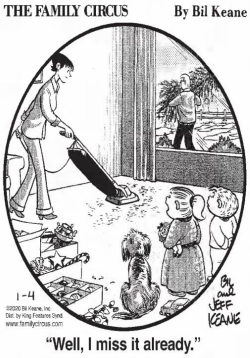
PREVIOUS SOLUTION

8	4	3	6	1	5	9	2	7
5	9	6	8	2	7	1	3	4
2	7	1	4	9	3	8	6	5
1	6	7	9	4	8	2	5	3
9	8	5	7	3	2	4	1	6
3	2	4	5	6	1	7	8	9
7	5	9	2	8	6	3	4	1
4	3	8	1	5	9	6	7	2
6	1	2	3	7	4	5	9	8

BEETLE BAILEY

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"Well, I miss it already."

DENNIS THE MENACE

"YOU SAID THIS STUFF KILLS FLEAS AND TICKS! I DON'T HEAR ANY TICKING."

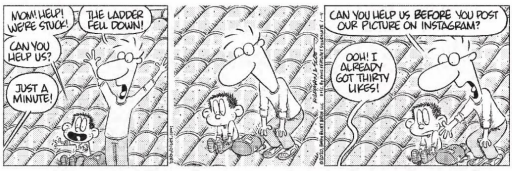
BLONDIE

HOW'S YOUR DIET WORKING OUT?
I WAS BUSTED THE SECOND I GOT HOME AND KISSED BLONDIE
I HAD A DELICIOUS SLICE OF PIZZA AT THE MALL!
APPARENTLY, I TESTED POSITIVE FOR DOUBLE ANCHOVIES AND GARLIC!

HI & LOIS

WHO INVITES SOMEONE OVER FOR DINNER ON A SATURDAY DURING THE FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS?
SOMEONE WHOSE WIFE GAVE WE CAN WATCH THE GAME WHILE SHE PREPARES THE FOOD.

BABY BLUES


MOM! HELP! WE'RE STUCK!
THE LADDER FELL DOWN!
CAN YOU HELP US?
JUST A MINUTE!
CAN YOU HELP US BEFORE YOU POST OUR PICTURE ON INSTAGRAM?
OOH! I ALREADY GOT THIRTY LIKES!

BC

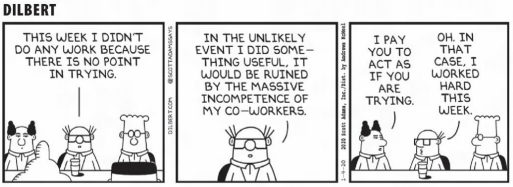
CURTIS

THANKS FOR THIS BOOK YOU GAVE ME FOR KWANZAA, MOM
YOU'RE WELCOME, CURTIS!
I'D LIKE YOU TO DEVELOP A LOVE OF BOOKS AND READING, THEN...
HEY, LOOK WHAT MICHELLE GAVE ME!
SIGH

WIZARD OF ID

ZITS

DILBERT


THIS WEEK I DIDN'T DO ANY WORK BECAUSE THERE IS NO POINT IN TRYING.
IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT I DID SOMETHING USEFUL, IT WOULD BE RUINED BY THE MASSIVE INCOMPETENCE OF MY CO-WORKERS.
I PAY YOU TO ACT AS IF YOU ARE TRYING.
OH. IN THAT CASE, I WORKED HARD THIS WEEK.

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MINUTE, HAGAR! I'M PUTTING MY SAVINGS INTO MY PIGGY BANK!
A PIGGY BANK? THAT SOUNDS PATHETIC!
WHAT? I DIDN'T HEAR YOU!
NEVER MIND!

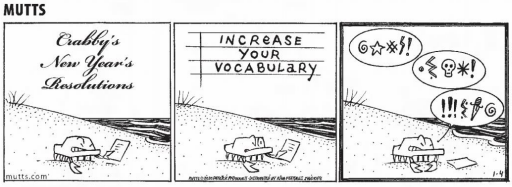
GARFIELD

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

FORT KNOX

JOEY, I'M STARTING TO REGRET GETTING BOTOX.
I NOW BELIEVE IN AGING GRACEFULLY.
WHAT MADE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND ABOUT BOTOX? WAS IT COMMON SENSE?
NO, THE PROOFING.
about FACE
FACE PLANT
FACE OFF
CHIN UP

MUTTS



PICKLES

HOLD STILL, EARL.
EH?
YEOW!!
GOT IT.
CHUNK!
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING?!
YOU HAD A HAIR GROWING OUT OF YOUR EAR.
I BELIEVE THE PHRASE YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR IS "THANK YOU."

SALLY FORTH

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS
#6: IF ALL ELSE FAILS, REINVENT YOURSELF
2020
AND AS THE CHADWELLS, WE WOULDN'T JUST HAVE PRIZED LIPIZZANER STALLIONS BUT WINGED LIPIZZANER STALLIONS!
BECAUSE DON'T YOU TELL ME THE SUPER-WEALTHY DON'T HAVE THEIR OWN PEGASUSES...PEGASUSI?
WHAT I ALWAYS WONDERED ABOUT "THE CHADWELL OPTION" IS HOW WE SUDDENLY BECOME RICH.
I'M THINKING LOTTO. I'M FEARING YOU KNOW A FAMILY WHOSE IDENTITY YOU PLAN TO ASSUME.
KEEFE

2020 film preview

Female-led movies among this year's most anticipated

By NARDINE SAAD
Los Angeles Times

The future is female ... at least when it comes to the cineplex.

For the first time, four films starring and directed by women – "Wonder Woman 1984," Marvel's "Black Widow" and "Eternals," and Disney's live-action "Mulan" – topped a Fandango audience survey of the most anticipated movies of the new year.

The movies, helmed by Patty Jenkins, Cate Shortland, Chloe Zhao and Niki Caro, respectively, were selected in an online survey conducted in the last weeks of December.

More than 2,000 millennial film fans cast their votes for the top movies and performances they were most looking forward to seeing on the big screen in 2020.

Rounding out the top 10 are a bevy of sequels, spin-offs and adaptations, including the next James Bond installment ("No Time to Die"), John Krasinski's "A Quiet Place II," the female superhero team-up flick "Birds of Prey," the musical "In the Heights," Pixar's animated film "Soul" and the ninth chapter of the "Fast & Furious" franchise.

"Soul," about a middle-school music teacher who dreams of playing at a New York jazz club, appears to be the only original fare.

But it's the "Wonder Woman" sequel that fans seem particularly stoked about, topping the most anticipated actress (Gal Gadot), actor (Chris Pine) and villain (Kristen Wiig) categories as well.

Here's how those four films fared and the other releases moviegoers can expect in the new year:

Most anticipated movie

"Wonder Woman 1984" (directed by Patty Jenkins; release date: June 5)
"Black Widow" (Cate Shortland, May 1)
"Eternals" (Chloe Zhao, Nov. 6)
"Mulan" (Niki Caro, March 27)
"No Time to Die" (Cary Joji Fukunaga, April 10)
"A Quiet Place Part II" (John Krasinski, March 20)
"Birds of Prey" (Cathy Yan, Feb. 7)
"In the Heights" (Jon M. Chu, June 26)
"Soul" (Pete Docter and Kemp Powers, June 19)
"Fast & Furious 9" (Justin Lin, May 22)

Most anticipated actress

Gal Gadot ("Wonder Woman 1984")
Scarlett Johansson ("Black Widow")
Emily Blunt ("A Quiet Place Part II," "Jungle Cruise")
Margot Robbie ("Birds of Prey")
Zendaya ("Dune")

Most anticipated actor

Chris Pine ("Wonder Woman 1984")
Paul Rudd ("Ghostbusters: Afterlife")
Ryan Reynolds ("Free Guy")
Daniel Craig ("No Time to Die")
Robert Downey Jr. ("Dolittle")

Most anticipated family film

"Mulan"
"Soul"
"Sonic the Hedgehog"
"Dolittle"
"Jungle Cruise"

Most anticipated horror film

"A Quiet Place Part II"
"Halloween Kills"
"The Invisible Man"
"The Conjuring: The Devil Made Me Do It"
"The Grudge"

Most anticipated live-action comedy

"Ghostbusters: Afterlife"
"Bill & Ted Face the Music"
"Bad Boys For Life"
"Legally Blonde 3"
"The Lovebirds"

The box office belonged to Disney

By JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

NEW YORK — Every movie year offers up a parade of hits and flops. But in 2019, no winner was in the same galaxy as the Walt Disney Co. And the biggest loser might have been anyone less thrilled about the box-office domination of franchise films.

When the year closed, the top 10 films in U.S. and Canada theaters were all be intellectual property-backed movies. That, in itself, isn't new. It's the third year in a row that the year's 10 biggest ticket-sellers have all been sequels, remakes and superhero films.

But in today's IP-driven movie world, one studio is in a league of its own. In 2019, Disney dominated American moviegoing more than any studio ever has before – roughly 38 percent of all domestic moviegoing.

The year's top five films were all Disney movies, and it played a hand in the sixth. Disney's Marvel Studios produced the Sony Pictures release "Spider-Man: Far From Home."

Disney banked about $13 billion in worldwide box office in 2019, including a record number of $1 billion releases. Once "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker" ($724.8 million through last weekend) inevitably reaches that milestone, it will mark the studio's seventh such $1 billion movie in 2019. The others were: "Avengers: Endgame" (the highest grossing release ever, not accounting for inflation, with $2.8 billion), "The Lion King," "Captain Marvel," "Aladdin," "Toy Story 4" and "Frozen II."

Disney's unprecedented market share includes films from 20th Century Fox, the 84-year-old studio that Disney gobbled up in March in a $71.3 billion acquisition.

Despite Disney's considerable firepower, overall ticket sales in U.S. and Canada theaters were down 4.4 percent from the year before through Dec. 29, according to data firm Comscore.

The upper echelons of the box office may be stratospheric, but the lower realms – where critics' scores are rotten and word of mouth is faster than opening weekend – are dismal. The movies are increasingly a zero-sum game. You're either "The Lion King" or you're "Cats."

"There's plenty of capacity to bring people to the movie screen," says Cathleen Taff, distribution chief for Disney. "What I think we're doing is competing for their time. If it's not great, they do have other options. But when it is great, people show up. And we've seen that [in 2019] with seven $1 billion movies."

Disney's considerable role in today's moviegoing hasn't been without critics. They have lamented its mega-blockbusters as products, not cinema.

Before Martin Scorsese's criticisms of Disney's Marvel movies sparked headlines, he lamented the monopolizing of the multiplex, disturbed by the sight of "Avengers: Endgame" playing on 11 of a theater's 12 screens.

If the big-screen experience is narrowing, the small screen is expanding. Streaming services proliferated in 2019 with the launch of Apple TV Plus (although it pushed back its first big movie release) and Disney Plus.

Amazon also reshaped its release strategy, shortening the theatrical window for some of its movies to just two weeks. Netflix rolled out its most ambitious release slate, including a host of awards contenders, led by Scorsese's "The Irishman" and Noah Baumbach's "Marriage Story," that played in only limited theaters.

The so-called streaming wars will only grow in 2020 when NBCUniversal launches its service, Peacock, and WarnerMedia debuts HBO Max.

While some may see a downturn in ticket sales as indicative of streaming's impact, John Fithian, the president and chief executive of the National Association of Theater Owners, believes streaming is disruptive to broadcast TV, cable and home markets like DVDs, but not to movie theaters.

"This may sound counter-intuitive, but with the launch of Disney-Plus, HBO Max and Peacock, we're more confident of the symbiotic relationship of streaming and theatrical than we were before," Fithian says. "The people who stream also go to the movies a lot."

Disney, Universal and Warner Bros. also remain devoted to the traditional theatrical window. Netflix will soon be competing with studios that can offer both a robust theatrical release and a streaming life – albeit not one with the same number of viewers at home that Netflix can promise.

Those services have certainly added pressure to the theatrical release, and quite a few in 2019 weren't up to the challenge. The year's most glaring bombs included bold bids at technological innovation ("Gemini Man"), mishandled franchise finales ("Dark Phoenix"), remakes that failed to connect ("Charlie's Angels"), prestige dramas doomed by controversy ("Richard Jewell"), toy movies that didn't click ("Playmobil: The Movie") and, you know, "Cats."

But some Hollywood executives point to successes suggesting a vibrant medium. Jordan Peele's "Us," for Universal, was the highest grossing original movie. Others like Lionsgate's "Knives Out," Fox's "Ford v Ferrari," STX's "Hustlers" and Sony's "Once Upon a Time in ... Hollywood" were also both critical and global hits.

Bong Joon Ho's "Parasite" and Lulu Wang's "The Farewell" gave the art house a boost.

"I don't think that the 4-to-5 percent drop means the domestic audience wants to stay home on the couch. I think it's just like everything else in this industry since it began: We have cycles," says Jim Orr, distribution chief for Universal. "Generally, the box office is still trending up, and I think that will continue over time, especially because you can do films like 'Us' and films like (the R-rated comedy) 'Good Boys' and people will still come out in force."

2018's box office, which followed a two-decade low in 2017, set a record with $11.9 billion in ticket sales. Disney, the market leader for the last five years, again led the way with "Black Panther," "Avengers: Infinity War" and "Incredibles 2."

Revenues have largely been on the rise thanks to increasing ticket prices. 2019's estimated $11.4 billion in ticket sales rank second all time, not accounting for inflation. But admissions have been gradually declining since 2005.

Overseas business, however, is booming. International box office for the first time crossed $30 billion in 2019. Either next year or in 2021, China will likely surpass North America as the world's top movie market.

Lately, homegrown movies have been China's top draws. This year, only two U.S. productions – "Avengers: Endgame" and "Fast and Furious: Hobbs and Shaw" – cracked the country's top 10 films. A pair of Chinese blockbusters led the way, each with about $700 million in box office: the science fiction adventure "The Wandering Earth" and the animated fantasy "Ne Zha."

All of these factors – a rare alignment of Disney juggernauts, expanding home-entertainment options, a more inward-looking China – mean a potentially dimmer outlook for 2020.

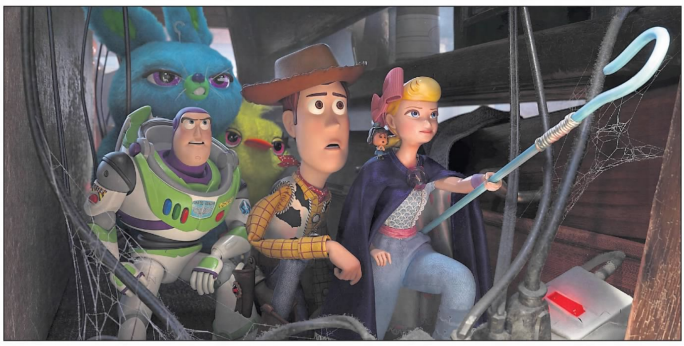
Many in the industry expect the year's ticket sales to drop of a few percentage points again. No one forecasts a similar year from Disney. The studio will still have a strong slate but one without an "Avengers" or "Star Wars" movie.

"2020 is going to be a more typical year, where the wealth will be spread quite a bit more," says Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for Comscore. "The sky is not falling, but we're definitely going to have to change our expectations for 2020. It's not going to be just about one studio dominating, but it's going to be about all the studios bringing some of their biggest brands."

James Bond, Wonder Woman and The Rock are coming in 2020. But greater volatility may be on the way, too.

Disney-Marvel Studios / AP

Brie Larson is shown in a scene from "Captain Marvel."



Disney / Pixar / AP

Buzz Lightyear, voiced by Tim Allen, Woody, voiced by Tom Hanks, and Bo Peep, voiced by Annie Potts, are shown in a scene from "Toy Story 4."

Lucasfilm / AP

Droids BB-8, left, and D-O are shown in a scene from "Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker."

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ASK ANGIE'S LIST

How much does interior painting cost?

By DIANA CRANDALL
Angie's List (TNS)

A fresh coat of paint can go a long way in transforming your space – and what better time to start than heading into a new year?

Here's what you need to know to set your budget and complete a job well done.

GETTING STARTED: Painting the interior of a 2,000-square-foot house costs between $1,900 and $7,800, according to the Angie's List Pricing Guide.

Wall height, designer paint and regional differences all play into the final price point, so be sure to communicate with your painting pro about your budget.

If extensive prep work needs to be done, like sanding or drywall repairs, find out up front how much extra this will cost – and whether or not your pro is equipped to handle the issue.

If you need extra help from a handyman, you can typically expect to pay between $60 and $65 an hour.

PAINT: A single gallon of paint will cover around 350 square feet in one coat, and how many coats you need will depend on factors like the existing color of the wall and the new color you're painting.

A gallon of paint costs between $15 and $50, according to the Angie's List Pricing Guide.

That price can jump to more than $100 a gallon if you plan on using designer paints like Farrow & Ball; and it drops between $30 and $60 if you choose a mid-range brand like Benjamin Moore and Sherwin Williams.

Wondering which paint to purchase? Higher quality paint can prevent premature aging, which means less repainting down the road.

If you aren't sure which type of paint you need – flat, semi-gloss, matte, satin – ask a professional to help you answer that question.

LABOR: Labor costs vary depending on the job, and how you'll pay – per hour, day or square foot – depends on the contractor. Where you live can also impact the cost of painting labor.

Generally speaking, small jobs, like cabinet or trim painting, usually start at $200 and go up from there.

Larger projects, like an entire residential repainting, can cost up to $4,500, according to the Angie's List Pricing Guide.

Homeowners report paying professional painters between $1,000 and $2,800 to paint home interior rooms and walls, though stairwells, kitchen cabinets or other unique features in your home may increase prep time and cost.

DIY VS. HIRING A PRO: Skilled and experienced DIY painters won't have a problem with prepping or painting, but most homeowners find it's worth the cost to hire a pro – if for no other reason than the time it takes to thoroughly complete a painting project.

A quality paint pro can also save you from expensive mishaps that require repainting down the road.

Hiring out the job also means you don't have to worry about your living room being unrecognizable for six weeks.

That '70s show in home decor

By KIM COOK
Associated Press

You've probably noticed it in clothing stores: racks and shelves full of high-waisted flares, rib-knit turtlenecks, acid green sweatshirts and disco ball metallics.

It's that '70s – and '80s – show.

These two fashion trends have, as usual, worked their way into home decor as well.

"Right now, in home design, it feels like a total '70s takeover," Apartment Therapy's Danielle Blundell says. "This time period had two pretty distinct things going on – boho hippie vibes and glam, glitzy disco feels. Which means you can probably find a way to work something '70s into your home no matter your aesthetic."

Watch for patchwork and peasant prints, fringe and earthy hues. Shaggy, textured woven rugs. Modernist wall art. Rattan etageres and side tables.

One of the hallmarks of the 1980s was Memphis style. Started by Austrian-born but Italian-raised architect Ettore Sottsass, it was characterized by squiggle and geometric pattern, mixing of pastels with black and brights, and an overall playful, whimsical approach.

Sottsass and his team designed for Fiorucci, Alessi and Esprit among others, and Karl Lagerfeld and David Bowie were collectors.

Designer Sasha Bikoff created a buzz-worthy Memphis-inspired staircase for the 2018 Kips Bay Decorator Showhouse in Manhattan.

New Yorker Raquel Cayre manages an Instagram account dedicated to all things Sottsass, and even created a temporary space in Soho called Raquel's Dream House, chock full of Memphis-themed interior decor.

Memphis originals are pricey, but you can find referential decorative items that are affordable. Street brand Supreme offers clothing and skateboard decks; designer Ellen Van Dusen's Brooklyn-based eponymous company makes clothing and home goods featuring her own versions of Memphis pattern.

Genevieve Garrupo / Sasha Bikoff / AP

The staircase inside the Kips Bay Showhouse in New York is shown. New York-based designer Sasha Bikoff created the exuberant showstopper of a staircase for 2018's Kip's Bay Showhouse in Manhattan.

Surfaces

Imola Ceramica has the Pop collection of ceramic tile, with Roy Lichtenstein-inspired art comics printed on subway-style tile. Their Let It Bee collection features groovy, semi-circular, tone-on-tone designs in brick red, indigo, apple green and dark yellow.

Designer/architect Luca Andrisani has designed a collection for New York Cement Tile called Geometrika. Inspired by midcentury op art, there are retro hues, square and rectangular shapes, and eye-catching optical illusion patterns. Walker Zanger has Australian designer Pietta Donovan's hip new '70s-patterned tile collection.

At www.spoonflower.com you'll find several peel-and-stick wallpapers and fabric by the yard with Memphis style or leopard prints. Here as well are '70s-style florals in wallcoverings and fabric.

European bathware designers have been featuring pedestal sinks, toilets and tubs in colors like cranberry, moss, mustard, teal and pink – colors that would have been destined for the bin a few years ago.

Here in North America, eBay and salvage sites like Retro Renovation are good places to source vintage wares. For new products, Aquatica USA has roomy resin tubs in dark red or moss green with white interior, while Bella Stone's got a fun one in fire-engine red.

Accessories

Check out www.roostery.com for whimsical '70s-style fruit and vegetable prints, geometrics and paisleys in soft goods like napery and throw pillows.

Sometimes it's the little things that bring the look home. Atomic starburst knobs, for example; and www.zazzle.com has several patterns. Cabinet and doorknob backplates come in starry shapes at www.rejuvenation.com.

At www.dusendusen.com, find soft furnishings printed with bold check, dot, stripe, cutout and squiggle patterns. There are patterned pet beds, pillows and shower curtains, too.

Furniture

In a collaboration with London-based Soho Home, Anthropologie offers the Adriana chair; in a deep terracotta velvet, the chubby, channel-seamed silhouette echoes Italian postmodern design. Kardiel's curvy Miranda gold-velvet two-seater has an Austin Powers flair.

At Beam, you'll find simple yet stylish chairs and tables made of powder-coated steel, hardwood and performance fabrics, part of a collaboration between Gus*Modern and LUUM inspired by the Memphis Group's color palette.

ModShop has a treasure trove of options, including the Chubby 2 lounge chair that swivels on a brass-clad base, and the St. Germain side table and credenza, with an abstract, patterned front in poppy colors, perched on chunky acrylic legs.

Ball-shaped and half-dome lighting in matte and polished metallics reference the '70s, as do embossed ceramic bases and cane and rattan fixtures.

Look for combinations of pyramids, squares and balls, as well as thick glass circle shapes in '80s-style fixtures. CB2, Urban Outfitters and All Modern have well-priced designs, while Chairish and 1stDibs are good places to hunt for vintage pieces.

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Photo provided / www.ePlans.com

Clean lines and large windows deliver sleek curb appeal to this modern design. See more images online at www.ePlans.com/collection/house-of-the-week.

A stylish and bold farmhouse

Go bold with this modern design. The Alastar, by Visbeen Architects, is full of style and smart amenities.

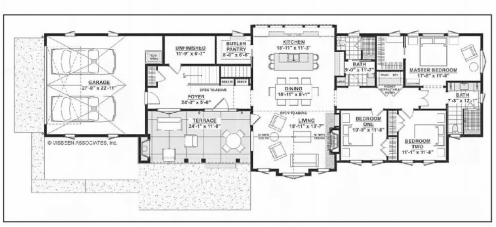
The party's in the kitchen, where a really big island invites everyone to hang out. An extra-large butler pantry makes storing groceries nice and easy.

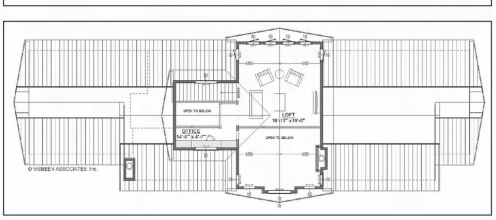
We love the ultra-open layout between the living room, dining area and kitchen. In the master suite, you'll find a spacious walk-in closet and more.

An outdoor terrace boasts a fireplace for year-round enjoyment. Upstairs, a loft can be used in a myriad of ways.

To build this home, order a complete set of construction documents by calling 866-228-0193 or visit www.ePlans.com/collection/house-of-the-week. Enter the design number to locate the plan and view more images and details.

Visit the website to view previously featured plans, browse other specialty collections or search to find exactly what you want from more than 28,000 home designs. Most plans can be customized.





Design number: 928-326
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 2
Framing: 2-by-6
Square footage: 2,491 square feet
Dimensions: 102-feet by 35-feet-3-inches

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- Formal Dining Room Adjoins Kitchen
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Phyllis Palmer
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13923 Red Arrow $175,000
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3487 Bluegrass Way $449,000
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- Immediate possession!
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- Call Dick Donnellan 269-921-0023

4225 CLEVELAND AVE., Stevensville
- 10-ACRE PARCEL
- Ideal location for subdivision development
- Lincoln Twp – Lakeshore schools
- Close to schools, shopping
- All municipal services available
- $235,000
- Call Loren Gerber 269-921-0754

3065 PIPESTONE, Benton Harbor
- NICE 2 BR BRICK RANCH
- 3+ ACRES surrounded by woods
- 1378 SF main floor living space
- Large family room with woodburner
- 28 x 36 pole barn
- $162,000
- Call Dick Donnellan 269-921-0023

6082 CLEVELAND AVE., Stevensville
- GREAT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
- 4100 SF auto repair shop
- Includes major shop equipment
- Large lot on busy corner location
- $265,000
- Immediate possession
- Call Loren Gerber 269-921-0754 or Dick Donnellan 269-921-0023

FISKARS PROPERTIES

Offered By:
James Agens,
RE Broker
269-208-5302
www.sableshores.com
www.villageatstevensville.com

CALL FOR A PRIVATE SHOWING

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4144 Ridge Road, Unit 2
Stevensville, MI
- 3,092 Square Feet
- 2 Bed & 2 Full Baths
- Library, Office or 3rd Bed
- Gourmet Kitchen, Granite
- Real Oak Flooring
- Gas Log Fireplace
- Reduced: $519,000
- MLS # 19041142

Sable Shores
4144 Ridge Road, Unit 26
Stevensville, MI
- 2,529 Square Feet
- 3 Beds & 3 Full Baths
- Den or 4th Bedroom
- Custom Finishes
- Vaulted Ceilings
- Private Elevator
- Reduced: $599,000
- MLS # 18047862

Sable Shores
4144 Ridge Road, Unit 34
Stevensville, MI
- 2,711 Square Feet
- 4 Beds & 2-1/2 Baths
- Custom Cabinetry
- Granite Tops
- Vaulted Ceilings
- Private Elevator
- Reduced: $729,000
- MLS # 15049062

SABLE SHORES CONDOMINIUMS AT LAKE MICHIGAN

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 5th | 1:00PM - 3:00PM

5855 Park Road
Eau Claire, MI 49111

4 BD, 2 BA. Gorgeous Ranch on 7 acres w/ 2 enormous pole barns. One is heated & air conditioned. Mature trees surrounding the property that sits back from the road. Swimming pool & hot tub off the back of the home. Freshly painted walls, new carpet & wood floors. Finished basement w/ potential Bed & Rec. w/egress window. If you love serenity & nature this is the place for you.
$399,900. MLS: 19046365

Hosted By:
Jennifer Avery, REALTOR®
Cell: (269) 944-8219
javery@jaqua realtors.com

Jaqua Realtors
Lake Michigan Shoreline Office
4233 Red Arrow Highway | Stevensville, MI 49127
www.JaquaRealtors.com

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269-876-0715

CORE REAL ESTATE, INC. COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
269-429-8001
Core RELcom

Earl Misch

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS

MICHIGAN CITY
2 bedroom upper stove/fridge included off street parking $625 a month plus utilities 219-877-8808

Michigan City, IN
Charming 1 bedroom upper Heat furnished No pets $600mo plus elec. 219-872-4731

FURNISHED APARTMENTS

La Porte, IN.
One bedroom upstairs apartment in LaPorte. Includes stove, fridge and all utilities. New carpet. $160.00 per week. $500.00 security deposit. Call 219-508-0667

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LEGALS

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSALS CITY OF ST. JOSEPH Howard Family Trail Bridge Repair

Proposals will be received until 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday February 4, 2020 by the City of St. Joseph, at the City Clerk's Office, 700 Broad Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085. Proposals will be opened on February 4, 2020 at 3:15pm in the City Commission Chambers. Work includes: All labor, material, and equipment necessary to remove decking, existing beams and joist, refinish or replace beams and joists as necessary. Specific details are provided in the Request for Proposal (RFP). RFP's can be downloaded from the City of St. Joseph website (www.sjcity.com) or one can be picked up from the City Clerk's Office.
All bids must be submitted in duplicate and in accordance with the bid form included in the bid documents, which may be obtained from the St. Joseph City Clerk's Office.
The City of St. Joseph reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any formalities in bidding and/or to accept the bid or bids should it consider same to be in its best interest.
Denise Westfall
St. Joseph City Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF BERRIEN

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO. 19-1063 GA

In the matter of Delores Zook, an allegedly incapacitated individual.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: Patricia, Clarence, & Heirs of Delores Zook whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE:
A hearing will be held on 01/21/2020 at 9:00 a.m. at 811 Port Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085 before Judge Brian S. Berger 34678 for the following purpose:
A hearing on the appointment of a Guardian of Incapacitated Individual (Delores Zook). Date: 01/02/2020

Attorney:
Brian Winfield Heckman
SAAG 76006
470 West centre Ave
Ste A
Portage MI 49024
269-382-4500

Petitioner:
Dawn Tittle APS
401 8th St
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
269-363-8457

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF BENTON HARBOR BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, PA 267 OF 1976

A PUBLIC HEARING is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on January 20th, 2020 at a regular meeting of the Benton Harbor City Commission to be held in the Commission Chambers, 200 E. Wall St., for the purpose of establishing a Commercial Rehabilitation District for Chicago Industrial Real Estate, LLC's pursuant to Public Act 210 of 2005 for real property located at 825 Riverview Drive, Parcel ID #11-51-0804-0003-08-7.

If approved, a second Public Hearing will be held at 7:00p.m. on February 3rd, 2020 at a regular meeting of the Benton Harbor City Commission to be held in the Commission Chambers, 200 E. Wall St., for the purpose of considering an application for a Commercial Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate for Chicago Industrial Real Estate, LLC's pursuant to Public Act 210 of 2005 for real property located at 825 Riverview Drive, Parcel ID #11-51-0804-0003-08-7.

At such public hearings, the property owners, affected taxing units and residents of the City of Benton Harbor shall have the opportunity to appear and be heard.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL NOTICE

Benton Harbor, MI Country View Apartments openings
Applications will be accepted for wait list for 2 and 3 bdrm apartments only. Apply in person 1928 E Britain Ave 269-926-8068 TTY 711
Annual income restrictions apply.

IN MEMORIAM

In Memory Of Pastor Robert M. Hill

Your Wife, Children and Grand-Children Love Always!

EMPLOYMENT

PROFESSIONAL

The Town of Trail Creek is seeking a part-time Street Commissioner. The Street Commissioner is responsible for the overall safe and proper operation/maintenance of the street department. An above average degree of expertise and knowledge is required to ensure that all street paving, maintenance, signage and water drainage needs of The Town of Trail Creek are met. The Street Commissioner is also responsible for determining operational changed, equipment modifications, and supply needs. Other responsibilities include overseeing employees, training, disciplinary action, and safety. The Street Commissioner is responsible for communicating all expenditures and funding needs to the Town Council and Clerk-Treasurer. Applications can be picked up from the Town Hall located a 211 Rainbow Trail, Trail Creek, Indiana, starting Friday, January 03, 2020 from 8:00 - 2:00 pm and should be returned to the Town Hall no later than 2:00 pm January 17, 2020

Joshleen M. Denham
Clerk-Treasurer
Town of Trail Creek
(219) 872-2422

EDUCATION/ TEACHING

Long-Term Substitute Math Teacher

River Valley School District
Employment info at: www.rivervalley schools.org
Deadline: January 24th or until filled

GENERAL HELP

Now Hiring
Full and Part Time Guards for outside security gate attendant in Michigan City/ Portage area.
1st and 2nd shift.
Starting at $11.00 - $12.00 per hour.
Call Matt at 574-514-7679.
Perfect for retirees!!

Classifieds Make A Cash Connection!

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Watervliet, MI
Finance Director: Accounting or Finance BA with CPA certification preferred: Watervliet Public Schools: Apply by January 31 or earlier. To apply see online posting at https://hiringsolutionsllc.com/msbo/Watervliet_Finance_Director

Kalamazoo, MI

Journeyman Electrician

Kalsec® is the leading global producer of natural spice and herb flavor extracts, natural colors, natural antioxidants and advanced hop products that help food and beverage companies make their products look better, taste better and last longer... naturally. For over 50 years, we have added value to our Customer's brands by providing safe, reliable, innovative natural solutions while respecting the people and planet in which we interact.

Why Kalsec®?
We offer outstanding career opportunities for those striving to develop their talents in a family owned, globally focused company. We nurture a culture driven by creativity and innovation, while respecting an employee's desire for stability and a strong work/life balance.

Founded in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Kalsec® has delivered a brand built on honesty, integrity and trust that will keep us sustainable for the next 100 years. Continued growth of our business has resulted in offices worldwide including Asia, Europe, Mexico and North America.

Kalsec®, is currently seeking a highly talented Journeyman Electrician to join the I&E Maintenance team. The successful candidate will maintain production equipment operability by the installation, troubleshooting, calibration, and repair of the plant instrument and control systems and equipment. Specific job functions include but are not limited to: (1) Troubleshooting and repair of 480VAC systems, including motors, motor control centers, VFDs, and panelboards. (3) Be able to read, interpret, and mark up for revision, P&ID, Electrical, and Loop drawings. (4) Adhere to the standard for arc flash protection as required in NFPA 70E. (5) Understand and implement the NFPA 70 National Electrical Code in an industrial setting as it applies to Class 1 Div. 1 hazardous locations.
The ideal candidate will possess advanced problem-solving skills including the ability to think critically about difficult challenges, determine the root cause of problems hindering production and Process Safety Management (PSM), and apply sound strategies to solve them through the Management of Change (MOC) process.
To be successful, the candidate must possess excellent communications skills, being able to clearly and effectively communicate with peers, other departments, and supervision spanning multiple shifts.
Requirements
• Journeyman Electrician state license (Industrial).
• Experience in troubleshooting with an understand of troubleshooting best practices for manufacturing systems and equipment.
• Must be able to read P&ID's, electrical diagrams/drawings, schematics, loop drawings, and electrical schedules.
• Experience with Class 1 Div. 1, Class 2 Div. 2, and Intrinsically Safe requirements.

Desired:
• Five (5) years of Journeyman Electrician experience.
• Three (3) years of instrumentation calibration.
• Well versed in good documentation recording practices.
• Background in CMMS systems and their function in the plant.
• Basic understanding of the requirements of Arc Flash.
• Basic understanding of Process Safety Management (PSM).
• Preferred background in Quality Assurance, Food Defense, and Safe Quality Foods.
• Well versed in the requirements of OSHA and MIOSHA as they apply to the Journeyman Electrician position. This includes Lock Out Tag Out (LOTO).
• Basic understanding of Computer software, MS Office, and MS Outlook.

Kalamazoo, MI

Instrumentation Technician

Kalsec® is the leading global producer of natural spice and herb flavor extracts, natural colors, natural antioxidants and advanced hop products that help food and beverage companies make their products look better, taste better and last longer... naturally. For over 50 years, we have added value to our Customer's brands by providing safe, reliable, innovative natural solutions while respecting the people and planet in which we interact.

Why Kalsec®?
We offer outstanding career opportunities for those striving to develop their talents in a family owned, globally focused company. We nurture a culture driven by creativity and innovation, while respecting an employee's desire for stability and a strong work/life balance.

Founded in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Kalsec® has delivered a brand built on honesty, integrity and trust that will keep us sustainable for the next 100 years. Continued growth of our business has resulted in offices worldwide including Asia, Europe, Mexico and North America.

Kalsec®, is currently seeking a highly talented Instrument & Control technician to join the I&E Maintenance team. The successful candidate will maintain production equipment operability by the installation, troubleshooting, calibration, and repair of the plant PLC systems, including Allen Bradly and Opto22. (2) Troubleshooting and repair of plant instrumented systems. (3) Be able to read, interpret, and mark up for revision, P&ID, Electrical, and Loop drawings. (4) Calibration of gauges, transmitters, switches, and controllers in Class 1 Div. 1 hazardous locations. (5) Maintain NIST tracible documentation for all calibrations. (6) Test and document the safety instrumented function (SIF) of instruments. The ideal candidate will possess advanced problem-solving skills including the ability to think critically about difficult challenges, determine the root cause of problems hindering production and Process Safety Management (PSM), and apply sound strategies to solve them through the Management of Change (MOC) process.
To be successful, the candidate must possess excellent communications skills, being able to clearly and effectively communicate with

White Space Sells

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

peers, other departments, and supervision spanning multiple shifts.
Requirements
• Associate degree in Instrument and (Process) Control (I&C) or equivalent.
• Experience with calibration and calibration best practices.
• Instrumentation experience, including but not limited to, transmitters, switches, indicators, gauges, PH, guided wave radar, sonar, and PLC interfacing.
• Well versed in instrumentation test equipment.
• Have a good understanding of the physical properties of flow, level, temperature, and pressure, and how these properties interact and affect instrumentation and process.
• Experience in troubleshooting with an understand of troubleshooting best practices for manufacturing

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

systems and equipment.
• Must be able to read P&ID's, electrical diagrams/drawings, schematics, and loop drawings.

Desired:
• Five (5) years of calibration experience.
• Five (5) years of troubleshooting instrumentation and process control systems.
• Well versed in good documentation recording practices.
• Background in CMMS systems and their function in the plant.
• Experience with Class 1 Div. 1, Class 2 Div. 2, and Intrinsically Safe requirements as it applies to instrumentation.
• Basic understanding of the requirements of Arc Flash.
• Basic understanding of Process Safety Management (PSM).
• Preferred

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

background working with Quality Assurance, Food Defense, and Safe Quality Foods.
• Well versed in the requirements of OSHA and MIOSHA this includes Lock Out Tag Out (LOTO).
• Well versed in computer software, MS Office, and MS Outlook.

FINANCIAL

GARAGE /ESTATE SALES

MERCHANDISE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Benton Harbor, MI
Bargain Tyme
2075 E Red Arrow Premium sheet vinyl. Black and white square 8 ft wide. $1.00 per ft. Also we have 13 ft 6 in for 14 ft mobile homes. $1.00 per ft. 15 ft 3 in for 16 ft mobile homes or large kitchens. $1.00 per ft

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

2 50 gal gas hot water heaters for mobile homes. $395.00 each
5 electric hot water heaters, 50 gal. $375.00 each
10 by 12 plush carpet, 5 colors. $40 each
12 by 20 plush carpets, $100 each.
Wood paneling $8.00 per panel.
White base board 5 in by 12 ft long. $25.00 each.
Doortrim 5 in 8 ft. $15.00
6 ft large glass show cases $100 each.
6 ft wide bubble wrap $.25 per ft.

BUILDING MATERIALS

LaPorte, IN
High heat bills
For Sale
Bubble Wrap Foil Insulation
100 ft Rolls
4' 5' 6' wide
Insulate your homes, pole barns, dog houses, etc.
Half price, will keep 97% of heat in home. cheap!!
219-324-0444

WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

La Porte, IN
We buy houses!
Looking fixer uppers
All Cash!
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Watervliet, MI
Buying junk Vehicles & Scrap Metal
Call Ray @
269-463-3565

PETS

Sell your unwanted items quickly with a classified ad.

CATS/DOGS/PETS

Coloma, MI
Puppies! 2 Registered Golden retriever males (800.00) and 2 Aussie/healer males (150.00) All health checked and vaccinated, ready to go home. Call or text 269-944-1294

WHITE SPACE SELLS

CATS/DOGS/PETS

Goshen, IN
F1B Mini Golden Doodles
Vet checked and ready to go!
Born Oct 28th
$800 per puppy
Call Vernon
574-642-0148 ext 3

La Porte, IN
AKC Siberian Husky puppies for sale. 1 male is 8 weeks old, and 3 others at 12 months old.
For more info call 219-778-4652

CATS/DOGS/PETS

Kingsford Height, IN
AKC Havanese, Companion, Female, 3 years old, Cream, loving,quiet, and calm. www.Ccarlins.com/Dogs.html
for photos.
(219) 344-0992

New Buffalo, MI
Double yellow headed male Amazon parrot and cage $400 obo
269-231-5070

FARM

TRANSPORTATION

PEOPLE DO READ SMALL ADS!

BUSINESS & SERVICE GUIDE

Masonry
Lakeshore Concrete
Masonry Work
Driveways and Porches
ALL concrete work
Brick, block and stone
All repairs big or small!
We even fix leaky basements and offer Senior Discounts!
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Richter's Carpentry
Specializing in basement remodeling, drywall, drop ceilings, doors & trim.
No job too small.
20+ years in Business.
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Demler Roofing
Over 40 Years Experience
Baroda, MI
269-422-2542
Licensed & Insured
Shingles are our Specialty

Grow your business!
Call Angelique at 855-317-4292 Ex. 459, to find out how

WINTER Tree Work It's Oak Season
Willie Nearn Jr.
and Associates
269-532-8156
Making things happen by getting things done
CUT IN WINTER WHILE SAP IS SLOW!

Sell Your In The Classifieds!

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

Uncertainty will be the enemy. You'll have plenty of options, but if you can't make up your mind, you will be left out. Get off the fence and get on with your life. Don't make irrational choices; do your research swiftly and show confidence and precision in everything you do.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Avoid getting into an emotional debate or letting anyone put pressure on you to do something you don't want to do. Focus on personal maintenance, not on taking care of others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Take a moment to yourself. Map out what personal achievement you want to make this year. Let a loved one know how much you care. Romance is encouraged.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Head in the direction that shows the least resistance. Having a clear passage will make your life easier and more enjoyable. Keep life simple and create fond memories with the people you love.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Put your energy to good use. If you don't plan an action-packed day, you are likely to stew and fret over something you cannot change. Don't make a fuss, when you can make peace.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Make suggestions and follow through on your words. Changes you make at home or to your routine will have a favorable effect on the way your year progresses. Hard work will pay off.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Spend more time on personal matters that will improve your appearance, attitude and future. Look at the facts and make a wise choice.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you are open and accommodating, you will get what you want in the end. If you make a fuss, you'll aggravate whatever situation you face and end up in a stalemate.

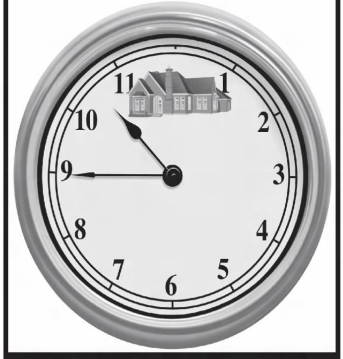
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Take more time to rest, go over your options and consider what's best for you. Change needs to be made for the right reasons, not because you are bored.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Change begins with you. Don't sit back, when you should be going full throttle. Set your plans in motion and extend an invitation to people you think might have something to contribute.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Don't overdo, overanalyze or overspend. If you streamline your affairs, you will be able to better handle your overhead. Now is not the time to be frivolous or impulsive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) How you broach sensitive issues will make a difference. An innovative approach will bring results. A change in direction will open a path to a new and exciting adventure.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Don't let someone make decisions for you or push you in a direction that you aren't sure you want to go in. Stick to what works best for you.

Sell IT SOONER!

ADVERTISE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

CROSSWORD

Crossword Answers E5

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

"INITIAL OFFERINGS" By DAVID KWONG

ACROSS
1 Extra NHL periods
4 Official order
9 Prefix suggesting savings
14 Weightlifting units
18 Like a nonexistent chance
19 Provides an excuse
20 Queen Amidala's "Star Wars" home
21 Rink move
22 Christmas buy
23 When the Commodore 64 computer was released
26 Clean Air Act org.
27 Eye drop
28 Looks for prints
29 Driveway hoops game
30 World capital since 1931
34 Bart Simpson's grandma
35 One might be slipped
36 California's Santa ___ River
37 Character who said about her father, "Yet he hath ever but slenderly known himself"
40 Amigo of Fidel
43 Doctrines
47 Tennis great
50 Hood
52 1982 Physical Tour singer
57 Corrida participant
58 Bug
59 Novel makeup
60 Prey for a Hauskatze
61 Starchy roots
62 Card game shout
63 "Cotton Candy" jazzman
64 Defeat
65 Low-pH stuff
67 "Excuse me ... "
74 Son of Seth
75 "Gigi" playwright
76 Assures, as a win
77 Cal Poly campus site, initially
78 Zoo features
81 'Beloved' novelist Morrison
82 Lab dish eponym
83 Give the chance to
84 Word on a bill
85 What a shutout lowers
89 Place to get a lift
91 Aspiring atty.'s exam
92 Sushi roll wrap
93 Camera move
94 Ahead
96 Personal quirk
98 Org. giving G's and R's
102 Declines
104 Capital near Siena College
110 Stiller's partner
112 Lucas droid
114 Quick reminder
115 Hindu title
116 Highest grossing movie of 1980, with "The"
120 X, at times
121 Cut out
122 Attach with twine
123 Unsettling looks
124 Bread grain
125 Living
126 Professional gps.
127 One of the vitals
128 With 87-Down, fairly

DOWN
1 Insult
2 National Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall site
3 Soda shop supply
4 Architect Saarinen
5 Alice's cat
6 Andorra's region
7 Op. ___
8 Half a fly
9 Ho-hum feeling
10 Type of salad
11 Parting words?
12 Quaffs with punch
13 Massage reaction
14 Ersatz silk
15 Tool for removing broken screws
16 Seats arranged in rows
17 Shrub with a purple fruit
19 Chip in a pot
24 Baseball Hall of Famer Roush
25 Beachwear for the immodest
31 Lowest multiple of CLI that fits in this space
32 Thunderstruck
33 Creator of the GOP elephant
34 "Death in Venice" author
38 Freudian topics
39 "Dilbert" cry
41 Subway fare?
42 God with a quiver
44 Drawing tools
45 First quarterback to exceed 5,000 passing yards in a season
46 Derisive sounds
48 Superfamily including gibbons
49 Makes into law
51 German town
52 "Movin' ___": '70s-'80s sitcom theme song
53 "Smallville" character
54 Horror film helper
55 O.T. queen
56 Artful dodge
61 More under the influence
64 Soccer great Messi
65 Inverse trig function
66 Big name in tequila
68 Thinks
69 SpaceX CEO Musk
70 Nothing, in Nantes
71 Madonna's "La ___ Bonita"
72 Cassini of fashion
73 Reference book reference
78 Verge
79 "Lonely Boy" singer
80 Testing subject
81 Palm smartphone
82 World leader who's a judo black belt
85 Long times
86 Pertinent
87 See 128-Across
88 Frost-covered
90 Kind of pneumonia
95 Benefactor
97 One of two in a crash
99 Recovery place
100 Overdue debt more commonly pluralized
101 Quite a bit like
103 Shiny, in product names
105 Butcher shop cuts
106 ___ choy
107 Is closer to reaching
108 Run the show
109 Bowl-shaped pans
110 "I'm ready to come in now"
111 John's first partner on American TV's "The Avengers"
112 Clearance item caveat
113 Highways: Abbr.
117 Bus sched. letters
118 FRA neighbor, to the IOC
119 Onetime Beatle Sutcliffe

1/5/20 xwordeditor@aol.com

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HOMES for SALE

IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

Ten years overdue for new tires

DEAR CAR TALK: I have a 1995 Honda Accord wagon with 128,000 miles and 16-year-old tires. Do I have to worry that my tires are going to split apart one of these days? – Ronda

DEAR RONDA: I'd strongly suggest you pony up for a new set of tires.

Tires wear out in two ways.

One way is through use: The rubber creates friction with the road surface. That friction is what allows you to do things like turn and stop. As the rubber creates that friction, it gets scrubbed off the tire.

Ray Magliozzi
Car Talk

So, every time you drive, your tires give up a tiny bit of their surface. Eventually, they wear down to the point that there's not enough tread left to provide sufficient friction or channel away water. And at that point, it's time for a new set.

But tires also degrade due to exposure to the ozone in the air. If you left a brand-new tire outside, even if you never put it on a car, the rubber would eventually degrade, dry out and crack. And once it dries out and loses its pliability, the tire becomes dangerous and is a candidate to blow out.

With 16 years of exposure to the atmosphere, I'm pretty sure your tires are cooked. If you look at the side walls, you'll almost certainly see hundreds of little cracks.

Tire manufacturers recommend you buy new tires every six years, whether you've worn them out or not, due to the degradation of the rubber.

DEAR CAR TALK: Even in new cars these days, I can feel every bump on the road. The type of car doesn't matter.

Remember cars from the '70s and '80s? Not only could you not hear the engine or the road, but the ride was comfy, quiet and nice. Are there any cars like that made in the U.S. today?

The last cushy ride I had was in my 1999 Dodge Grand Caravan minivan.

But now you spend $20,000 and the ride is worse than in my 1985 Chevy. Even without a muffler, the 6-cylinder engine was quiet.

What car would you recommend so the ride will not shake my brains out after a few hours on the highway? – Andy

DEAR ANDY: I think you've got a bad case of selective, nostalgic memory. Overall, carmakers have made great progress with reducing noise and vibration in the past few decades.

It's true that a lot of cars from the 1970s had very cushy rides. And that's true of cars that were designed in the '60s and '70s and soldiered on for decades, largely unchanged, like the Lincoln Town Car and some Cadillacs.

GM, in the 1970s, in particular, was known for its famous "squish" suspension, and Jello-like handling. You turned the wheel left, and about 90 seconds later the car would list to the right and then come about. And the oversized engines in some of those cars had to work so little that you didn't hear much noise from the engine.

Today, several factors can make some inexpensive cars noisier. We have smaller, more fuel-efficient engines that rev higher. And as Americans demanded better handling, we got tires with shorter sidewalls that create more road noise. When you pay more for a car, those things can be mitigated.

And there are plenty of cars now that do a great job with ride comfort and noise suppression. Lots of cars now have much better cabin insulation, insulated glass, fewer squeaks and rattles, and even electronic noise canceling systems.

In our experience test driving new cars, the manufacturers that seem to prize isolation and quiet the most are Lexus, Buick and Lincoln.

So, go visit a few dealers and tell them your priorities are a soft, isolating ride and a quiet cabin. And avoid anything with the word "sport." You might drive a Lexus ES350, a Buick LaCrosse or Enclave, or a Lincoln MKZ or Aviator, and see what you think.

Then tell the dealer you're looking to spend $20,000 and watch them frog-march you out to the far end of the used car lot.

For real luxury cars that prioritize a truly isolated cabin, you'll probably end up spending twice that. But look on the bright side: Then you can legitimately whine about everything being too noisy and expensive these days.

Got a question about cars? Write to Ray Magliozzi in care of King Features, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803, or email him by visiting the Car Talk website: www.cartalk.com.

Looking to changes ahead in 2020

Photos provided

There will be a slew of exciting battery powered electric vehicles introduced in 2020 and beyond. Among the most anticipated is the Mustang Mach E four-door crossover. Is it wise for Ford to put the iconic Mustang name on a model so unlike any sold as a Mustang before? The market will decide when Ford delivers the Mach E to dealers by the end of the year.

Let's take a look at the automotive landscape in 2020. There a number news items of interest. Perhaps the biggest Michigan news is that the North American International Auto Show (Detroit Auto Show) will not be held in chilly January. The new date has been pushed to the warmer, summer-y month of June. I have marked on my calendar June 9-10 for the media preview and the readers should mark June 13-20 on theirs if they intend to attend the public event. Also new: Cobo Center's naming rights were sold and a new name has been assigned. Cobo is now the TCF Center. So instead of spending two days in January at Cobo Center in frigid weather, this year it will be two days in June at TCF Center in hopefully mild June weather. By the way, wonder what TCF stands for? I wondered too so I looked it up. It is the initials of a Wayzata, Minn.-based financial company formerly called Twin City Federal, but now the company says the letters stand for Treating Customers Fairly. Moving the event to June is a big change, but for the better. I won't miss attending the NAIAS in the middle of the winter. It remains to be seen if the move can help the NAIAS remain viable as a venue for automakers to introduce new models. Many of the major international auto shows are facing declining participation from automakers.

Dar Davis

I mourned the loss of several once-popular auto nameplates in 2019. The list of vehicles taken out of production in 2019 and no longer offered for sale in the U.S. include such longtime stalwarts as the Ford Taurus, Focus and Fiesta, Buick LaCrosse, Chevrolet Cruze and Volt and Cadillac CTS. Unfortunately, the bloodbath continues in 2020 as interest in sedans and convertibles continue to sag dramatically. Hold your hat over your heart and bid goodbye to Ford's long-running Flex (10 years), plus its sibling, the mid-priced Fusion, Cadillac's CT6 and ATS, Lincoln's MKT, the Chevy Impala and Buick's sassy little convertible, the Cascada. Imports weren't immune from the consumer's growing interest in utility vehicles either. Gone from foreign car showrooms in 2020 will be the likes of the Audi TT sports car, Nissan's Juke, Fiat's 500 and VW's iconic Beetle coupe and cabrio. A number of cars are thin ice due to poor sales. Lincoln apparently is debating what to do with its slow selling MKZ and Continental, Chevy with its Malibu, Chrysler with the aging 300, and Dodge with its equally long-in-the-tooth Journey, Charger and Durango. Here's hoping there is a shift in buyer preferences and a slight shift back toward buying cars will save some of these once-popular nameplates.

Trivia question

What year did GM produce its unsuccessful all-electric EV1 car?

I'll be watching closely to see if the buying public reacts positively to the introduction of the 2021 Ford Mustang Mach E crossover all-electric vehicle in the fourth quarter of 2020. Will it be a smart move on Ford's part to take the long-popular Mustang name and put it on a four-door station wagon utility vehicle? I have my doubts. I recall how Ford with the Thunderbird created a sensation in 1955, only to slowly dilute the near luxury car's golden image over time. Ford changed the market segments the Thunderbird competed in until public interest waned and it was dropped, first in 1997 and again in 2005 after resurrecting the nameplate in 2002.

I'm just saying that maybe Ford is going out on a flimsy limb and might be at risk of killing its golden goose – the Mustang. A four-door Mustang seems so wrong. While I think the Mach E is a good looking vehicle, I also think it has a couple of obstacles to overcome to be a big sales success. First, Ford dealers have a big job convincing buyers to abandon their ICE (internal combustion engine) car and own an all-electric vehicle. Second, the new Mach E price tag may be a problem. The famous $2,368 low price tag on the initial Mustang when introduced in 1964.5 was a huge sales incentive to buy the attractive car. I'm not so sure today's secretaries and young people can find a way to come up with the $43,895 entry fee (before $7,500 federal EV tax credit) for the upcoming Mach E. Having witnessed in my lifetime how Ford frittered away the good name of its Thunderbird makes me wonder if Ford is setting itself up to do the same to Mustang and its well-deserved muscle car persona. I guess we'll have to wait and see. I hope I'm worrying for nothing.

One of the most exciting electric car start-up companies is Rivian Automotive. The young company has lined up impressive financial backing, has purchased an abandoned Mitsubishi assembly plant in Illinois, and has ready for assembly two attractive EVs in the R1T (pickup) and R1S (SUV.) This should put Rivian in position to provide serious competition for Tesla.

There are a slew of exciting new vehicles to be introduced in 2020. A great number of them will be electric powered, whether we the consumers are ready for them or not. Perhaps the automaker making the biggest investment in covering the market with EV models is Germany's Volkswagen. The Dieselgate debacle embarrassed the world's best selling automaker and they have pledged to devote all their energies in the years to come to become the biggest maker of electric vehicles in the world. They have set aside $66 billion to get the job done over the next five years. So we can expect all of the automakers to follow VW's lead and introduce dozens of new EV vehicles (cars, crossovers, SUVs, pickups, etc.) in the years to come, and from advanced reports many will be knockouts. I'm particularly eager to see "in the metal" the exciting Rivian R1T and R1S electric-powered pickup and SUV being introduced in 2021. The Michigan-based automotive startup seems to have the financial backing and the moxy to be a success. Certainly Rivian is one of the new companies that can give Tesla a run for their money.

Like a lot of car buyers I'm not keen on owning an EV just yet. I'm waiting for the charging stations infrastructure to be expanded. I was pleased to read earlier this fall that owners of gas stations are beginning to install charging stations at their sites. I want charging stations as prevalent as gas stations ... then I'm more likely to opt for an EV. Until that time comes, I'll continue to enjoy my paid-for Buick Verano sedan that has averages an amazing 30.7 mpg since I bought it in November of 2012.

I wish all my readers a very Happy New Year.

■ Trivia answer: 1996 to 1999 at the Lansing Craft Center. Only 1,117 of the two seat, two-door coupes were built.

Dar Davis founded the Lake Bluff Concours and chaired the event for many years. He has been writing this column since 1999. He can be reached at drd43@sbcglobal.net.

BEHIND THE WHEEL

Best cars for achieving your New Year's resolutions

By CAMERON ROGERS
Edmunds (AP)

This week, people across the country are putting their New Year's resolutions into practice. These goals represent an honest attempt at self-improvement, but they often fall apart as the year progresses.

What if the next car you buy can help you get motivated? A new car to fit a resolution is a huge commitment, but it might just be the thing to (sometimes literally) drive you to your goal.

Here are the cars we believe will help achieve some of the most popular New Year's resolutions.

Lose weight: 2019 Mazda MX-5 Miata

Shedding those pesky holiday pounds is a common resolution, and few things inspire losing weight more than a tight fit. That's especially true for cars, which is why we recommend the 2019 Mazda MX-5 Miata.

The Miata is a small roadster that recently underwent a diet of its own. When the engineers designed this Miata generation, they wanted it to weigh the same as the first model that debuted in 1990.

Nimble handling and a peppy engine make the Miata fun to drive, but it's the compact cabin that provides the primary motivation for hitting the gym.

The Miata is also well suited for resolvers tackling their weight loss journey with a buddy since the cramped two-seat interior will cause wider passengers to rub shoulders.

Starting price (including destination and handling): $26,650

Be more spontaneous: 2020 Jeep Wrangler

Those looking to add more off-the-cuff adventure to their lives need a vehicle that is similarly ready to go at a moment's notice. The 2020 Jeep Wrangler embodies that spirit more than any other vehicle on sale today.

Even though its on-road manners are unrefined compared to modern crossover SUVs, the Jeep Wrangler offers unsurpassed capability when pavement turns to dirt.

Every Wrangler comes standard with four-wheel drive and plenty of ground clearance to aid with off-road adventure. Specialty models such as the Rubicon are equipped with specialized features to enhance the Wrangler's abilities further.

Five passengers can get in on the muddy fun thanks to the four-door Wrangler Unlimited's ample rear legroom.

Starting price (including destination and handling): $29,790

Take more family vacations: 2020 Kia Telluride

It can be difficult getting the entire family on the same page for much-needed rest and relaxation. Even then, choosing the right vehicle to shuttle everyone around presents a challenge. We suggest the 2020 Kia Telluride.

Most adults will have no problem fitting in the third row of the Telluride, unlike many SUVs in the midsize class. There's also room for everyone's luggage because the Telluride offers a useful amount of cargo space, even with the third-row seat deployed.

The Telluride can further incentivize you to head out for a trip thanks to its easy-driving nature. It doesn't feel overly large or bulky, and its V6 engine has no problem with launching you into quick-moving highway traffic.

Your new family hauler won't cost an arm and a leg either because the Telluride is less expensive than similarly equipped competitors.

Starting price (including destination and handling): $32,785

Treat yourself: 2020 Mercedes-Benz A-Class

Self-care has become a hot topic over the last few years, and if your budget can support it, a luxury car is a way to treat yourself day after day. We recently named the 2020 Mercedes-Benz A-Class the top-rated luxury sedan.

Mercedes' smallest four-door, which was introduced last year, provides a true luxury experience. The cabin materials are high-quality and rival those found in larger, more expensive sedans.

The A-Class also provides a smooth and controlled ride and quick acceleration when you put your foot down. Even an A-Class loaded up with premium features such as 64-color ambient lighting and premium audio are priced within reason.

Starting price (including destination and handling): $33,795

Save more money: 2017 Hyundai Elantra

Reducing expenses is one of the most popular resolutions, and shoppers looking for a new ride can save quite a bit by going with a slightly used car.

In general, you can save 30 to 40 percent by going this route. Small cars, in particular, offer strong value. One of our favorites in the wallet-friendly compact segment is the current-generation Hyundai Elantra, which was introduced for the 2017 model year.

Highlights include an unusually spacious cabin, comfortable seats and a user-friendly infotainment system. The 2017 Hyundai Elantra comes in a number of trims, starting with the SE.

High-mileage used Elantras can be had for less than $10,000. Models with moderate mileage and the desirable Popular Equipment package list for about $12,000.

You'll save on fuel costs, too, since the standard 2.0-liter engine sips fuel at a rate of 32 mpg in combined city/highway driving, according to the EPA.

Answer To Today's Puzzle

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1/5/20

Horoscope

BY EUGENIA LAST

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

Don't limit what you can do. Prepare carefully and put your plans in motion. Think big, but stick to what's reasonable. Maneuverability must be maintained if you want to be successful. Stick to a budget and to the rules and regulations. Don't put too much pressure on yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) A change at home or to your relationship with a sibling or friend will give you the incentive to make a move. Look at the possibilities and consider how best to proceed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Someone will use emotional manipulation to persuade you to get involved in something that has no benefit. You are best off doing something that eases stress and makes you happy.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Take the initiative to run your own show. Take a leadership role and set plans in motion that will benefit you and those who pitch in and help.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Consider what you want to accomplish this year and research how best to go about putting your plan in motion. Expanding your knowledge and skills is encouraged.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Let your emotions motivate you to set the record straight regarding what you want to happen this year. Disclose your plans to people who can offer valuable suggestions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Push for what you want. Don't let anger take charge or waste your energy on small annoyances. If you focus on what's essential, you will make progress.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Turn your thoughts into reality. If you follow through on your plans, you'll feel good about the changes you made. A creative endeavor will lead to excellent opportunities.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) An impulsive move will lead to disappointment. Take your time, feel situations out and assess what's doable, affordable and in your best interest. Romance and personal growth are encouraged.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You will gain momentum and build a strong foundation if you maximize your time and effort while focusing on what's important. Take a position of leadership – it's where you belong.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You'll have to take precautions when dealing with friends and family. Taking part in a debate is not in your best interest. Get along, keep the peace and enjoy your day.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Emotions will flare up quickly. If you make an educated choice that will encourage a positive response, you will achieve what you set out to do.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Someone will withhold information that is necessary to make the right decision. When in doubt, take a pass. You could suffer a loss if you don't have all the facts.

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BUILT Ford PROUD

2020 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4

SILVER SPRUCE METALLIC, ECOBOOST ENGINE, CLASS III TRAILER TOW PACKAGE, 18 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, FORD CO-PILOT 360, REAR VIEW CAMERA, REVERSE SENSING SYSTEM, AND MUCH MORE! F20253

LEASE FOR $249 PER MONTH*

36 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,500 MILES PER YEAR, $4,100 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED, *MUST QUALIFY FOR FORD TRADE IN ASSISTANCE BONUS CASH, OFFER EXPIRES 01/31/20

2020 FORD FUSION SE

MAGNETIC, 1.5 ECOBOOST ENGINE, POWER SEAT, REVERSE SENSING SYSTEM, FORD CO-PILOT 360 REAR VIEW CAMERA, KEYLESS KEYPAD, SATELLITE RADIO, FORD PASS CONNECT, AND MUCH MORE! F20122

LEASE FOR $149 PER MONTH*

36 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,500 MILES PER YEAR, $3,500 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED, *MUST QUALIFY FOR FORD LEASE RENEWAL & FORD TRADE-IN ASSISTANCE CASH 01/31/20

2019 FORD RANGER CREW CAB 4X4 XLT

MAGNETIC, 2.3 ECOBOOST ENGINE, SATELLITE RADIO, SYNC 3, FORWARD SENSING SYSTEM, FORD PASS CONNECT, REVERSE SENSING AID, AND MUCH MORE! F19498

MSRP	$36,485
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,490
FORD NEW YEARS RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 500
FORD SELECT INVENTORY RETAIL CASH	- 750
FORD COMPETITIVE CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 1,000
FORD "GM & RAM TRUCK OWNERS" CONQUEST CASH*	- 1,000

SALE PRICE* **$31,745** (*MUST QUALIFY)

2020 FORD ECOSPORT 4X4 SE

SHADOW BLACK, ALUMINUM WHEELS, REMOTE START, FOG LAMPS, POWER MOONROOF, POWER SEAT, HEATED FRONT SEATS, REAR VIEW CAMERA, REVERSE SENSING SYSTEM, SATELLITE RADIO, AND MUCH MORE! F20129

MSRP	$26,540
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 345
FORD BONUS CASH	- 500
FORD OWNER LOYALTY*	- 1,000
FORD NEW YEARS RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 500

SALE PRICE* **$24,195** (*MUST QUALIFY)

2020 FORD TRANSIT CONNECT

FROZEN WHITE, CRUISE CONTROL, FORD PASS CONNECT, REAR VIEW CAMERA, POWER WINDOWS AND LOCKS, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, AND MUCH MORE! F20021

MSRP	$26,795
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,000
FORD SELECT INVENTORY CUSTOMER CASH	- 750
FORD NEW YEARS RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 500

SALE PRICE* **$24,545**

2020 FORD EDGE SEL ALL WHEEL DRIVE

ICONIC SILVER, ACTIVEX SEAT MATERIAL, HEATED FRONT SEATS, REAR VIEW CAMERA, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, 18 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, KEYLESS KEYPAD, BLIND SPOT INFO SYSTEM, FORD PASS CONNECT, REVERSE SENSING SYSTEM, AND MUCH MORE! F20092

LEASE FOR $259 PER MONTH*

36 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,500 MILES PER YEAR, $3,800 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED, *MUST QUALIFY FOR FORD LEASE RENEWAL CASH, OFFER EXPIRES 01/31/20

2019 FORD FLEX SEL ALL WHEEL DRIVE

RUBY RED METALLIC, TRAILER TOW GROUP, NAVIGATION, 20 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, MULTI-PANEL VISTA ROOF, POWER LIFTGATE, BLIND SPOT MONITORING SYSTEM, PREMIUM 7 SPEAKER AUDIO SYSTEM, AND MUCH MORE! F19440

SOLD

36 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,500 MILES PER YEAR, $3,650 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED, *MUST QUALIFY FOR FORD LEASE RENEWAL CASH, OFFER EXPIRES 01/31/20

2020 FORD ESCAPE SE ALL WHEEL DRIVE

MAGNETIC, 1.5 ECOBOOST ENGINE, HEATED FRONT SEATS, REAR VIEW CAMERA, POWER SEAT, SATELLITE RADIO, SYNC 3, FORD PASS CONNECT, AND MUCH MORE! F20084

LEASE FOR $199 PER MONTH*

24 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,500 MILES PER YEAR, $3,400 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED, *MUST QUALIFY FOR FORD TRADE - IN ASSISTANCE BONUS CASH, OFFER EXPIRES 01/31/20

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2019 DODGE CHALLENGER GT AWD

TOR RED, POWER SUNROOF, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, 19 INCH PAINTED ALUMINUM WHEELS, POWER SEAT, BACK-UP CAMERA, REAR PARK ASSIST, REMOTE START, AND MUCH MORE! C19311

LEASE FOR $359 PER MONTH*

42 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,000 MILES PER YEAR, $3,499 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED, *MUST QUALIFY FOR CHRYSLER LEASE RENEWAL OFFER EXPIRES 01/31/20

MSRP	$50,570
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 8,325

SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE **$42,245**

2019 CHRYSLER PACIFICA LIMITED

BILLET SILVER METALLIC, 23 SPEAKER HARMON KARDON SOUND GROUP, U-CONNECT THEATRE, 20 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, 360 SURROUND VIEW CAMERA SYSTEM, HANDS FREE SLIDING DOORS, NAVIGATION, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, TRIPANE PANORAMIC SUNROOF, HEATED FIRST AND SECOND ROW SEATS, FORWARD COLLISION WARNING, LANE DEPARTURE WARNING, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, AND MUCH MORE! C19333

2019 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT 4X4

BRIGHT WHITE, TAN SUN RIDER SOFT TOP, POLISHED GRANITE CRYSTAL WHEELS, SATELLITE RADIO, TRAILER TOW PACKAGE, AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, HEATED FRONT SEATS, REMOTE START, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, TOUCH SCREEN AND MUCH MORE! C19141

MSRP	$39,010
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 3,515
WRANGLER BONUS CASH	- 1,000
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$34,495
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS **$33,995** (*MUST QUALIFY)

2019 JEEP COMPASS SPORT 4X4

DIAMOND BLACK CRYSTAL, 6-SPEED MANUAL TRANSMISSION, MOLDED CARGO TRAY, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, ALUMINUM WHEELS, BACK-UP CAMERA, APPLE CAR PLAY, AND MUCH MORE! C19323

MSRP	$26,430
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 4,435

SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE **$21,995**

2019 RAM 5500 PLATFORM STAKE BED 4X4 DEMO

BRIGHT WHITE, 16 FOOT FLATBED BODY, 6.7 CUMMINS DIESEL, TRAILER BRAKE CONTROLLER, AISIN HEAVY DUTY TRANSMISSION, STAKES, POWER WINDOWS AND LOCKS, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, ELECTRONIC SHIFT ON THE FLY TRANSFER CASE, AND MUCH MORE! C19319

MSRP	$57,335
ADD FOR PLATFORM/STAKE BODY	+ 9,623
SUBTOTAL	$66,958
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 3,963
ON THE JOB COMMERCIAL UPFIT*	- 1,000
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$61,995
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
RETURNING LESSEE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS **$60,995** (*MUST QUALIFY)

2019 RAM 2500 LARAMIE CREW CAB 4X4

DIAMOND BLACK, LEATHER SEATS, 6.4 V8 ENGINE, ANTI-SPIN REAR AXLE, SNOW PLOW PREP PACKAGE, BLACK APPEARANCE PACKAGE, HEATED FRONT SEATS, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, 22 INCH BLACK PAINTED ALUMINUM WHEELS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START, AND MUCH MORE! C19221

MSRP	$58,970
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 4,684
REBATE	- 1,000
RAM BONUS CASH COUPON	- 250
FCA CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 500
BONUS CASH	- 2,000
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$50,536
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
CONQUEST LEASE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS **$49,536** (*MUST QUALIFY)

2019 RAM 3500 CREW CAB 4X4 BIG HORN DUALLY

BRIGHT WHITE, 6.7 CUMMINS DIESEL, PARK SENSE REAR PARK ASSIST, SPRAY-IN BEDLINER, 5TH WHEEL/GOOSENECK TOWING PREP GROUP, AISIN HEAVY DUTY TRANSMISSION, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, AND MUCH MORE! C19226

SOLD

2019 RAM 1500 CREW CAB 4X4

DIAMOND BLACK CRYSTAL, 5.7 HEMI V8 W/ TIGHT TORQUE, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, SPRAY-IN BEDLINER, SATELLITE RADIO, POWER SLIDING REAR WINDOW, CHROME APPEARANCE PACKAGE, AND MUCH MORE! C19350

MSRP	$45,180
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 3,185
REBATE	- 1,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL BONUS CASH*	- 500
TRUCK OWNER CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 1,000
BONUS CASH	- 1,500
RAM V8 5-TORQUE ENGINE BONUS CASH*	- 500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$37,495
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
CONQUEST LEASE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS **$36,495** (*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU CHRYSLER CAPITAL)

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